

Police Open Drive To Aid Cancer Victim's Family

HEARING BOARD ORDERS SUSPENDED BUILDING OFFICIALS REINSTATED

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Dresser, Smith To Be Retained

Reinstatement of two City of Torrance Building Department officials and the end of fixed suspension periods next month was ordered this week by the city's five-member Civil Service Board which completed hearings into charges that the two men had permitted building code violations.

Suspended March 10 by the City Council following investigation by State Division of Housing Inspectors of a North Torrance tract were Building Inspector James S. Dresser and his assistant, Cecil Smith.

Dresser was ordered restored to duty following a 75-day suspension and Smith was ordered back after a 60-day suspension. Time of both suspensions is to be computed from March 10, the ruling stated.

Four Conclusions
In a statement prepared following the day-long hearing last week, the Civil Service Board said it found that conditions exist in the building department which need correcting, and listed four conclusions drawn from the hearing:

1. That it was obvious to the board that the building inspectors have not been given sufficient instruction to properly perform their duties;
2. That James Dresser had not been thoroughly familiar with the requirements of the building code;
3. That Cecil Smith was not as familiar with the building code as he should have been;
4. That a real need existed for an In-Service training program in the department.

Rights Restored
The decision for reinstatement of the two to their positions following the stated periods of suspension carried with it the provision that all rights of the pair be restored.

Both Dresser and Smith were cleared by the board of charges that they had altered building permit record cards in the office. Dresser was cleared on an additional charge that he had promoted development of a subdivision in which he had an interest during city time. Both men had denied these charges during the hearing.

Charges against the two officials came up after residents of the Torrance tract complained that their homes were haphazardly constructed. An investigation by inspectors of the State Division of Housing turned up a number of alleged violations of the city's building code. The City Council ordered Dresser and Smith suspended until

their responsibility for the alleged violations could be fixed.

Complaint Filed
A 20-count complaint charging the Princeton Construction Corp. with building code violations was filed in South Bay Municipal Court last Wednesday. The complaint, drawn up by City Prosecutor Boris Woolley, charged the builder with four similar code violations in each of five homes on Patronella Ave. in North Torrance.

Gordon Mothersell served as chairman of the five-man Civil Service Board which conducted the hearing into the charges brought against Dresser and Smith. Sitting on the board members were George Downing, Steve Schmidt, Charles Schultz Jr., and Mark Wright. Walter C. Bradford serves the board as secretary.

Distaff Side of Battling Conway Duo Joins Hubby

The distaff side of the Battling Conways—Virginia Ruby, 44—joined her spouse in duranceville Wednesday.

The blonde former TV bit player was sentenced to one year in jail for running down her hubby, Tom, with the family car on Oct. 29. She collapsed, sobbing, in Oakland, and was taken to Superior Court Judge R. W. K. Pierson for probation so that she could care for her two children.

But Judge Pierson denied the plea when he learned that the child is in Oakland with his paternal grandfather.

He sentenced her to five years probation with the first to be spent in county jail.

The blonde had pleaded guilty to hitting her husband with the child in Oakland, Main St. She had just left the home of her mother at 2116 S. Main St. she said, when her spouse provoked her by hurling rocks through her windshield.

Tom Conway, 26, was sentenced to 20 days in jail for forgery on April 8 and a wife beating charge was forthwith dismissed.



FOR THE KIDS . . . Mrs. Bill Overstreet gladly lends a hand as workers lay a cement foundation for a bridge across the Denker Slough on Denker Ave. near 218th St. Mrs. W. C. Sidwell, chairman of the Shoestring Strip Advisory Committee, and Councilman John Gibson look on. A 36-ft. portable bridge will be placed on the cement foundations Thursday and walks will be built down from the sidewalks so that Shoestring children will no longer be forced to sash through a foot of mud on their way to school during the rains. The new bridge will cost \$9200 and is the fruition of long months of work by Mrs. Sidwell and her committee.

Interment Held For Infant Pair

Donald and Donna Stanchfield, wins who died shortly after their premature birth on April 19, have been interred in the National Military Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minn.

The infants were born to Mrs. Donald Stanchfield, 17511 Ermita Ave. The Stanchfields have three other children, Colleen, 5, John, 3, and Sandra, 1.

Other survivors are the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Thilda Ramswick of Torrance and paternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Stanchfield of Minneapolis.

Hardin and Flanagan Mortuary of Inglewood directed local arrangements.

Pilot Guides Stalled Plane To Safe Landing

Skillful flying by a student pilot prevented an airplane crash on Crenshaw Blvd. yesterday afternoon.

Pilot William Tribble of Compton, a member of the "Progressive Flying Club" of Los Angeles, stalled his light plane and was forced to hedgehop with a dead motor across Crenshaw Blvd., just clearing telephone wires. He made a perfect landing in a field behind the paint company and was not injured.

Toastmasters Slate Speakoff

A final speakoff will be held Tuesday night by the Torrance Toastmasters' evening club, which will feté "Ladies Night" at the Fish Shanty starting at 7 p.m.

Contest speakers will be Gil Ryllingstad, Frank Gorbet, Joe Heneel and Warren Jensen and guest judges will be Frank Young of the Midway Club, and Nathan Gibson and Dick Adam of the South Bay Club. A cup goes to the winner.

It May Be Later Than You Think

It may be later than you think:

Today is the first day of Daylight Savings Time, and unless you turned your clock up an hour last night or this morning, you're heading for schedule trouble.

It's a very simple matter. Just grab clock in hand before you do another thing, turn it ahead an hour, and forget it until Sept. 26—at which time you'll get that hour back.

Two Hurt When Car Overtakes, Catches Fire

Two persons received major injuries in a spectacular two-car crash on Highway 101 at Winlock Dr. Friday evening in which one car was gutted by fire when its gas tank ruptured.

According to police reports, William Cannon, 51, of Hermosa Beach, pulled out onto the highway and was hit by a car driven by William Lyndon, 17, of 6 Williamsburgh Lane, Rolling Hills.

The Cannon car overturned and caught fire. A passenger in the auto, Suzanne Cannon, 41, and a passenger in the Lyndon vehicle, David Barnett, 17, of 26973 Dapplegray Lane, were taken to Harbor General Hospital with major injuries.

A third passenger in the Lyndon car, Lorene Middleton, 16, of 26999 Dapplegray Lane, was slightly hurt.

Firemen from Torrance Engine Co. No. 2 in Waleria responded and doused the flaming auto, which was destroyed by the fire.

Social Worker To Speak

Miss Gertrude Blackstock, senior social worker in the State Department of Mental Hygiene, will be the speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the Harbor Area Exceptional Children's Foundation on Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Toberman Settlement, 131 N. Grand St., San Pedro.

Drive for Blood Slated at Camino

For the second time during the current college year, blood will flow tomorrow on the El Camino College campus, as Warrior students and instructors contribute to the Red Cross drive.

Arrangements for the presence of a bloodmobile on campus were completed by Miss Joanne Garrison, physical education and science instructor, who stated "necessity for more blood to be used for gamma globulin in the relief of polio prompts the return of the bloodmobile on campus."

Posters, music and spot announcements were utilized in publicizing the drive for blood donors on campus throughout the past week.

Organizations on campus will compete in the effort to contribute the greatest amount of blood in the campaign.



MOBILE HEADQUARTERS . . . Congressional Candidate Bob Finch points to the Dick Nixon signature (a real McCoy) on the side of his new red, white, and blue mobile headquarters. With him is his assistant, Bob Jackson, who is fast learning the ropes of being a bus driver. The bus was in Torrance yesterday when it served as a rally point for area Republicans to hear Finch.



HIGHWAY CRASH . . . A fireman from the Waleria Station comforts William Cannon, 51, of Hermosa Beach, who was slightly injured Friday evening when his car (background) overturned and caught fire on Hwy. 101 at Winlock Dr. Two persons received major injuries in the crash.

Waleria Businessmen Also Open Drive to Assist Smith Family

Members of the Torrance Police Department this week launched a drive to raise funds to help the Robert Smith family of Pacific Hills meet the overburdening costs of caring for their son "Chuckie," who, at 2½ years of age is doomed to lose his long battle with cancer.

The police department drive, being coordinated with a similar campaign started by the Waleria Businessmen's Assn., is being headed up by Police Chief Willard Haslam and Sgt. John Maestri.

Maestri said yesterday that he hopes to raise \$2000 to help the family meet the heavy medical costs incurred in the fight to save Chuckie's life.

The 2½-year-old lad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith of 3514 Crickelwood St., underwent operations in August and in January, during which time his right eye was removed.

The Smiths were told last week that Chuckie probably could not live until his third birthday — about three months away.

Sergeant Maestri told the Herald that he and other members of the Police Department would contact residents in all parts of the city seeking donations to go directly to the family to help them with their expenses.

At the same time, James Whitmer has been named by Waleria businessmen to head up a campaign in that area. The two drives will be coordinated, Maestri and Whitmer said.

Impetus was given the drive Thursday when Whitmer's 12-year-old son, Richard, and two friends, Lynn and Max Montgomery, aged 10 and 12, went from door to door in the area and collected \$50 for the family.

Contributions may be mailed to the Torrance Police Station or may be delivered to the station. Pick-up points around town are being arranged, and jars for contributions will be put in some of the local stores.

Woman Hit By Car Recovers

In good condition Friday at Harbor General Hospital was Mrs. Frigga Underberger, of 4202 W. 177th St., who was struck by a car Thursday morning while waiting for a ride to work.

Mrs. Underberger was standing on the corner of 177th and Hawthorne Ave. when she was struck by a car driven by Alan W. Block, of 4808 Rose Rd., according to police reports. Block told police that a car in front of him made a right turn forcing him off the road, where he hit Mrs. Underberger. He was not held.

Missing Plane Found At Torrance Airport

A four-place Piper Tri-Pacer, reported missing from Hawthorne Airport for several days, turned up at Torrance Municipal Airport Friday, where the pilot and his passenger said they were waiting "for the weather to clear up." They had there since Sunday.

Subject of a search by the Sheriff's aero detail, the plane had been rented from Bates Aviation Service at Hawthorne by Felix Vivas Jr., 24, of 2909 Montrose Ave., La Crescenta. His passenger was listed as Wills Hine Ashley II, 26, of 2750 Eagle St., San Diego.

Sheriff's Sgt. A. J. Sully of Lemmon, and Dave Hackley of the Sheriff's aero detail questioned Vivas and Ashley after the plane was spotted on Torrance Airport. Vivas and Ashley had been checked in at a hotel on the airport since Sunday.