

Light Opposition Voiced Against Council's Parking Meter Plans

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32 PAGES



A. E. THOMPSON
... To Head Up Harbor Chest Drive

Thompson Heads Chest for Harbor

Top man to lead the Harbor Area during the 1954-55 Community Chest campaign has been announced this week by Chest headquarters.

The man is A. E. Thompson, manager of the General Petroleum refinery in Torrance.

In accepting the top volunteer post in the Harbor campaign, Thompson will direct the activities of over 300 Harborites who will solicit funds for the 164 health and welfare service in the community Chest.

A resident of the Harbor Area for over ten years, the new area leader is well aware of the problems that face the community. Apart from his coming campaign duties, Thompson serves on the Harbor Area Welfare Board.

At GP 20 Years
A graduate of California Tech, he went directly to work for the General Petroleum Corp. and just celebrated his 20th anniversary with the firm.

Quite active in civic affairs, he is on Torrance's Rotary board, a member of the Palos Verdes Breakfast Club, and the publicity chairman of the American International Scholarship Field Service.

Foster Homes
The American Field Service is an organization that places foreign-born children in the homes of Americans. Main purpose is to give the child an opportunity to learn our way of life and bring old world culture into the home of the foster parents.

The foster parents are responsible for the room and board of the child and to see that they receive an education.

The Thompsons' household has been graced with the presence of 18-year-old Hella Pesfeldt from Germany. The young lady has completed her last year of high school at Redondo Beach and will return to Germany in July.

2000 Attend Summer School

Nearly 2000 Torrance children attended classes when summer school opened at the elementary and high school levels last Monday.

Enrolled for the six-week session which will close July 30 were 1991 students, including 238 high schoolers.

Tops at the elementary level was Seaside's enrollment of 302. El Nido ranked at the bottom of the list with 69. Kids are enrolled in other schools as follows:

North Torrance	167
Garr	162
Walteria	153
Torrance Elementary	147
Fern	145
Riviera	134
Crenshaw	130
Wood	128
Madrona	99

Summer school purpose in two-fold, Walter Rehwoit, director, said—to give students additional help in areas of deficiency and to allow advanced pupils to explore areas of special interest and ability.

"From the school's standpoint," Rehwoit said, "it reduces the loss of skills over summer vacation."

The program is state supported.

Korean War Hero Dies After Crash

A 31-year old Korean War hero, John E. Dunphy, 1431 W. 254th St., Harbor City, died early Tuesday from injuries received when his motorcycle overturned in Long Beach.

Dunphy, a Los Angeles police officer assigned to the harbor division, was injured when his motorcycle struck a ridge in the pavement and overturned. He was riding with another police officer at the time.

The accident occurred shortly before midnight Monday. He was treated at Seaside Hospital in Long Beach, and later moved to Georgia Street Receiving Hospital in Los Angeles, where he died about 8:50 a.m. Tuesday.

Dunphy served as a Marine Corps fighter pilot in World War II, and as a helicopter pilot in Korea. He returned from Korea only two months ago.

He is survived by his wife and two children.

Funeral services are to be held Tuesday for Frank William Kunkle, 29, of 16419 Illinois Ct. The Rev. Truman Jolly of the Gardens Presbyterian Church will conduct the services at Stone and Myers Chapel at 1 p.m. and interment will follow at San Gabriel Cemetery.

Mr. Kunkle, who had been ill with the measles, died suddenly at his home while in a high fever. Tests to ascertain whether pneumonia might have caused the death are being conducted.

Torrance Built F4D Sets Mark

The first production model of the Navy's F4D Skyray interceptor, built at Douglas' Torrance plant, has broken the sound barrier in level flight, flight company officials have announced.

Douglas Test Pilot Bob Rahn took the flat-top interceptor on its maiden flight last June 5. This model of the bat-winged Skyray had never been airborne before.

Officials said that this is the first Navy plane capable of supersonic combat speeds in level flight. The Skyray can also climb to an altitude faster than any other production jet, it was announced.

Powered by a Pratt and Whitney J-57 turbojet engine, with an afterburner which provides thousands of additional pounds for sudden bursts of speed or fast climbs from Navy carriers. The engine provides about 10,000 pounds of thrust at take-off. Rahn said the afterburner allowed a takeoff in half the normal distance.

Another model of the Skyray set a world speed mark of 753 miles per hour last October when it won the three kilometer speed honor at the Salton Sea. The new model is more powerful than the record breaker, officials said.

Cites Sensation
Rahn took the plane from Los Angeles International Airport to Edwards Air Force Base at Murco. He described his sensation at takeoff as similar to "being snarled out of a cannon."

The F4D has passed carrier qualification tests and is now in production at Torrance in a sub-assembly stage. It is expected to join the fleet sometime in 1955.

Delay Fatal Crash Trial

The trial of Corralles Acosta, scheduled for Wednesday, June 23, in Long Beach Superior Court, has been postponed indefinitely until a public defender can be obtained.

Acosta, 24, is a Mexican farm laborer, is charged with two counts of manslaughter in connection with the deaths of Mrs. Patricia Von Delden, 21, and her nine-month-old son, Kim, on April 3.

It is alleged that Acosta, who speaks no English, stole a taxi cab and struck the car in which the Von Deldens were riding. Mrs. Von Delden was seriously injured, but is recovering. The accident occurred at the intersection of the Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Ave.

Vandals Siphon Gas
Ray Farmer, 16920 Casimir Ave., told police that he heard vandals in the act of siphoning gasoline out of his car, but didn't catch them.

He reported hearing an old model car drive by his house several times, and then hearing someone running. When he inspected his car, he found the gas cap from his car on the ground and part of his gasoline missing.

Bond Petition Backers Seeking 3000 Signatures

Petitions requesting a special election for reconsideration of bond issues for a new Civic Center and municipal swimming pool are now in circulation, and returned petitions contain 500 names.

So said Mrs. Herma Tillim, who is spearheading the drive. The two propositions, narrowly defeated in the city elections in April, would be voted upon again in September or October if the petitions are successful, Mrs. Tillim said.

Leaders of the move hope to obtain 3000 signatures to present to the City Council at its June 29 meeting. Only 1071 signatures, 15 per cent of the 1950 gubernatorial vote, are needed to call a new election. Mrs. Tillim indicated that a number of petitions are still outstanding.

The petitions call for consideration of a \$700,000 bond issue for the Civic Center, to provide offices to replace the crowded conditions at City Hall, Police Department, and City Jail.

A Second Proposal
The second proposal on which the petition requests be placed on the ballot is a swimming pool and bathhouse, which would cost about \$250,000.

In the April election, the Civic Center bond issue failed by 66 votes of the necessary two-thirds majority. It received only 65.71 per cent of the votes. The swimming pool bond issue received 63.96 per cent approval, 159 votes short of adoption.

Mrs. Tillim said she was leading the drive for reconsideration of the proposals because of the urgent need for both facilities. The people were not adequately informed about the need for them in the recent election, she felt.

"We need both facilities so terrifically," she said, "the facilities for the city government are about one-third of what is needed. The City Hall would pay for itself, since space will have to be rented outside the present building, if a new building is not built."

City Manager George Stevens indicated that the city will soon have to rent additional space, probably to house a part of the city engineering department.

Offices Crowded
He concurred with Mrs. Tillim in the need for a new Civic Center. All city offices are crowded at present, he said, with the worst conditions in the Police Department and the Engineering Department. There is no more space in the present City Hall in which to expand, he said.

No place is available to house additional needed personnel, he said.

No plans for the Civic Center have been drawn up yet, but Stevens said that plans would probably be drawn up to show the voters what is needed if the issue comes up again.

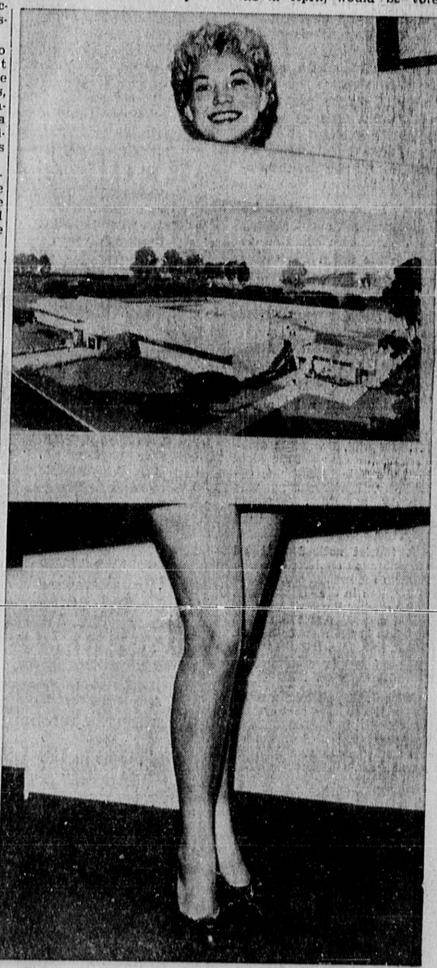
Site Named
The new city facilities would be located between Madrona and Maple Ave. on Torrance Blvd., a site close to the geographical center of the city. The land is available for purchase by the city if a bond issue were approved.

Mrs. Tillim pointed out that the city has no public swimming pool at present. A pool would be a big factor in preventing juvenile delinquency, she felt.

Campaign Planned
An intensive campaign to reach the voters would be conducted before the bond election if petitions are successful. Mrs. Tillim declared. There was little organized campaigning for the proposition before the last election.

Persons who have not signed the petitions and wish to do so will be held at the corner of Torrance Personnel Agency, Wittrow's Cafe, Parrish Stationers, and the YWCA, Mrs. Tillim said.

WEATHER
Summery weather has been forecast for today by the Weather Bureau, which predicts "low clouds this morning but mostly sunny this afternoon with a high temperature of around 80 and normal winds."



QUEEN CANDIDATE EARSIE SIMS
... Shows Off Proposal for Pool

Fair Queens Get Tickets Monday

Tickets will be issued in the race for title of Queen of the Torrance Community Fair next Monday night, July 28, at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Bob Owens, contest chairman, reported this week.

Representatives from each of the participating organizations and their candidates are to attend for an explanation of the rules, he said.

The service organizations already have entered the contest, Owens continued, and more are expected before kick-off time.

The Community Fair will be held at the corner of Torrance Blvd. and Maple St. Aug. 11 through 15, the chairman said, and will feature entertainment for the entire family. Among the attractions slated are commercial and industrial exhibits, the queen contest, musical entertainment, hobby and home-craft show, pie and cake baking contest, special kids' matinee, many prizes, and a giant "fun zone."

Opposition to Meters 'Light'

Opposition against parking meters in downtown Torrance was labeled "light" by observers here Tuesday evening following a 45-minute hearing before the City Council during which time only four persons spoke out against them.

Absence of an organized opposition may have paved the way for completion and adoption of a parking meter ordinance by the City Council.

Speaking out against installation of the meters was Bob White, of 3242 Torrance Blvd.; Anthony Billotti, of 18228 Ashley Ave.; Adis Thomas, 22401 Ocean Ave.; and Harry Green, 1314 Beech Ave.

Revenue Query
White wanted to know what percentage of the parking meter revenue would stay in Torrance, and from whom the off-street parking lots would be purchased. City Manager George Stevens said in answer to the first that all of the revenue would remain here, and that no decision had been made about purchase of meters.

Billotti said he opposed the plan because the merchants stood to benefit but were not called on to pay any part of the costs. City Attorney James Hall explained that any assessment district formed to purchase off-street parking lots in downtown Torrance would be the responsibility of only those property owners within the district.

Thomas recommended that the city do nothing about the parking situation downtown at the present time.

"With the development of shopping centers at the airport in Walteria, and probably at Torrance Blvd. and Hawthorne or at Hawthorne and Sepulveda in the near future, downtown Torrance will soon have plenty of parking facilities," he said.

Cut Limits—Green
Green recommended that the present parking limits be cut down, forcing larger turnover. Speaking out forcibly in favor of the proposal was Auto Dealer Paul Loranger, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, who described the (Continued on Page 26)

Father Dies After Siege Of Measles

Tests are being conducted today to determine the cause of death of a Torrance father of four children who died Sunday following a siege of the measles.

Funeral services are to be held today for Frank William Kunkle, 29, of 16419 Illinois Ct. The Rev. Truman Jolly of the Gardens Presbyterian Church will conduct the services at Stone and Myers Chapel at 1 p.m. and interment will follow at San Gabriel Cemetery.

Mr. Kunkle, who had been ill with the measles, died suddenly at his home while in a high fever. Tests to ascertain whether pneumonia might have caused the death are being conducted.

The deceased was self employed as a barber. He is survived by his widow, LaVerle, three sons, Robert, Frank and Gerald, a daughter, Sheryl; his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. of Alhambra; and a brother, John H. of San Gabriel.

Vandals Siphon Gas
Ray Farmer, 16920 Casimir Ave., told police that he heard vandals in the act of siphoning gasoline out of his car, but didn't catch them.

He reported hearing an old model car drive by his house several times, and then hearing someone running. When he inspected his car, he found the gas cap from his car on the ground and part of his gasoline missing.

St. and its traffic problems will form an important factor in the engineers' decision.

The eventual speed limit along the new stretch will probably be 35 or 45, Goldin estimated. This would mean that cars still could travel at 40 or 50 miles per hour through the residential area without fear of getting a ticket.

"We try to be fair with every one, driver and pedestrian," Goldin said. "People want 10 or 15-mile-per-hour speed limits where they live, but will not observe these speed limits when driving their own cars."

State Survey to Start on 174th Street Speed Limits

An engineering survey will begin immediately to determine speed limits for the new section of 174th St., the traffic department of the State Division of Highways revealed yesterday.

Residents living on the newly opened highway between Hawthorne and Crenshaw Blvds. have claimed that lack of speed limits has made the road a dangerous "death trap" for their children.

Before speed limits can be posted, an engineering survey must be submitted to Sacramento and be approved. The survey will take two days and should be approved in the State Capital in two or three weeks, speed limit, Goldin explained.

The theory behind this, he said, is that if the speed limit is set too low, drivers will pay no attention to it. "This breeds contempt for the law," the engineer stated.

Thus, the traffic department attempts to set a speed limit that they think drivers will follow on a certain street, then give a five-mile-per-hour leeway.

Aim for Happy Medium
Number of residences and topography also are considered. When the average speed of vehicles on the road is computed, the engineers try to reach a happy medium in posting a speed limit, Goldin explained.

The theory behind this, he said, is that if the speed limit is set too low, drivers will pay no attention to it. "This breeds contempt for the law," the engineer stated.

Thus, the traffic department attempts to set a speed limit that they think drivers will follow on a certain street, then give a five-mile-per-hour leeway.

To Contact Chief
Chief of Police Willard Haslam will be contacted by traffic engineers and his report on 174th

FOR WALTERIA READERS

Residents of Walteria are invited to turn to page 22 today for information vitally interesting to their community.

A series of articles starting today deal with the history of the various organizations within the community and THE HERALD hopes, readers in this fast growing section will find them interesting.