

NEW HIGH SCHOOL, TWO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS TO BE OPENED NEXT MONTH

FIRST — In Circulation — In Readership — In Advertising

Phone
FA 8-4000

Published Monday and Thursday —
Entered as second class matter Jan.
30, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, Cali-
fornia, under Act of March 3, 1879.

TORRANCE HERALD

MONDAY

TORRANCE'S ONLY COMPLETE NEWSPAPER — WITH OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

41st Year—No. 67

10¢ per copy

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 1955

CIRCULATION OFFICE FA 8-4004

12

12 PAGES

POLIO STRIKES TORRANCE TWIN

City Studies New Name for 174th Street

A request from the Regional Planning Commission that the name of 174th St. in Torrance be changed to Artesia St. got favorable action from the Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday night.

By a 7-1 vote, Commissioner Burt Lynn dissenting, the Commission forwarded the suggestion to the City Council.

The entire street east of Torrance has been renamed Artesia Blvd., and renaming it here would make for uniformity. The western portion of the street is known as Redondo Beach Blvd. in Redondo Beach, Gould Lane in Manhattan Beach, and 27th St. in Hermosa Beach, however.

RED CROSS BLOOD SENT MRS. KIRBY

Eleven of 15 pints of Red Cross-collected blood rushed by plane to San Antonio, Texas, to help Mrs. Myrtle Kirby, 35-year-old Torrance housewife, in her fight for life was the outright gift of several group employees at the Mayfair Creamery Co., according to Mrs. Virginia Jones, Torrance's blood chairman.

Upon hearing that the Los Angeles Red Cross blood center was called upon to answer an emergency call for the blood, which near-by bloodbanks in Texas could not supply, Monday in an Air Force plane immediately volunteered to have the blood transferred from the group's blood credit account. Service group employees have been building up credit by donating blood during Red Cross bloodmobile visits.

Mrs. Kirby, a lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol, was critically burned a week ago in the crash of a Civil Air Patrol plane in the Palos Verde Hills. She was flown to San Antonio Monday in an Air Force plane for special care at Brooks Medical Center.

A wire from a Red Cross field representative at San Antonio, stating that the blood was "gratefully received" also referred to Mrs. Kirby's condition by stating that she "was on her own."

Schools Hire Speech Aide

Mrs. Ernestine B. Dunlap, speech therapist, has been added to the special services staff of the Torrance Schools to serve for three days a week.

Mrs. Dunlap's major function will be in the area of speech therapy for individual pupils as well as groups of pupils having speech difficulties. Her secondary function will be in the field of speech education for teachers.

CITY OFFICIALS MADE PRISONERS AT NG CAMP

Mayor Albert Isen and Civil Defense Chairman George Powell were prisoners last Thursday night—but not for long.

Inspecting National Guard troops at Camp Roberts, in honor of "Torrance Day," the two city officials, accompanied by Capt. D. J. Horlander, commander of the local Guard unit, were preparing to inspect a field problem put on by the Torrance company.

In the darkness, the driver made a wrong turn, and the group found themselves in the middle of an "enemy" force they were supposed to visit. The quartette was ordered from their jeep and marched several blocks for questioning. Capt. Horlander's protests were overlooked.

The officers started questioning Mayor Isen, who was in civilian clothes, and wanted to know what he was doing there. "I'm just sightseeing," he said.

"Don't be funny," he was told. "Who are you?"

"I'm the mayor of Torrance," he replied.

Wearing crimson faces, the "enemy" officers offered profuse apologies to Mayor Isen and Powell, who were amused by the whole affair. They continued on their way.

The only city officials from



(Herald Photo)
NAME CHANGE—The city is currently studying a proposal to change the name of 174th St. to Artesia St., to conform with the name which the street carries in eastern cities. Here, on the Torrance-Gardena border, at Gramercy Pl., 174th St. has already become Artesia St.

Planners OK 20-Lot Tract

A tract southwest of 171st and Ainsworth Ave., containing 20 lots, was recommended for approval by the Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday night.

Presented by the Property Management Corp., the tract number is 21131.

The Maag Holding Co. proposal for 48 lots in tract 18380, located northwest of 170th and Arlington, was referred to committee.

A committee also will study the Grand Construction Co. proposal for 13 lots in tract 22109, located southeast of the Dominguez Channel and Ardath Ave.

Isenberg Gets Hermosa Post

Dale Isenberg, former secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, was named secretary of the Hermosa Beach Chamber, President Fred Reese announced Thursday.

Secretary here for three years, Isenberg resigned earlier this year. As Hermosa secretary, he will also have charge of civil defense plans in that city as the result of action by the City Council and Chamber, with part of his salary paid by the city.

He lives at 5038 Pacific Coast Hwy. Since leaving Torrance, he had been employed by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

Dance Set Aug. 27 At St. Catherine's

A Chinese garden will be the theme of a dance, for all members of St. Catherine Labourer Church, 3508 Redondo Beach Blvd., on Aug. 27 in the Parish Hall.

Child Molester Subject Of All Points Bulletin

Lester E. Johnson, 34, was the subject of an all-points bulletin issued to Southland police Thursday, after he was last seen in Torrance. He is wanted for child molestation, involving a seven-year-old girl Johnson, whose permanent home is listed in Bay City, Mich., last worked as a bus driver.

Commission OKs Shopping Center

A zone change for a new shopping center—including a market, drug store, medical building, bank, and 1000-car parking lot—received the approval of the Torrance Planning Commission, Wednesday night.

Presented by E. Van Dusen, the plans call for the center to be located northeast of 164th and Crenshaw, bounded by Redondo Beach Blvd., Neville Redmon, attorney for Van Dusen, requested C-2 zoning for the area. It is now zoned A-1 and C-1.

The zone change was unanimously recommended.

Woman Charges Battery to Man Presumed Dead

A Torrance woman filed a battery complaint against her former mate, Friday and local police took the man into custody, but the routine case has taken on weird aspects.

The woman called early Friday morning to say her former husband, whom she had not seen for eight years, was in this area and threatening her. She told authorities that her ex-mate had escaped from a Pennsylvania mental institution eight years ago, but was presumed dead. The complainant said that some bones were found near the institution after his escape and were taken to be his. She had not heard from him during the eight years.

Local officials are awaiting an answer to a wire sent to Pennsylvania authorities early Saturday, seeking clarification of the woman's story.

Police took his description and picked him up at his former wife's request. She signed a battery complaint against the suspect after they had an altercation. He is due to be arraigned on the charge tomorrow at South Bay Municipal Court.

3 New Schools Scheduled To Open on September 14

Despite delays, three new schools—North High and Steele and Newton Elementary—are expected to open on schedule, school officials said Friday.

Classrooms will be ready for use, officials said, although some finishing work may be required on the outside of the buildings and campuses. North High will be open, but gym and music building facilities will not be completed for another six to eight weeks.

Vehicles Hit While Parked Here

Three out-of-town drivers had bad luck when they parked their cars in Torrance last week.

Autos owned by Roy P. Davis, 645 E. 138th, Los Angeles, and Wilbert Tolliver, 1627 W. 266th, Harbor City, were damaged in hit and run altercations.

Davis' 1952 model car sustained damages to its right side when struck by another car while parked in the Stadium parking lot Wednesday night. Davis reported to local police that his vehicle picked up a smattering of royal blue paint from the sideswiper.

He estimated the hit-run occurred sometime between 7:30 and 11 p.m. Wednesday.

Tolliver reported that his 1949 sedan was hit in the left rear fender and wheel by an unidentified vehicle, while parked in front of the Torrance Roller Drome. The mishap took place between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

A witness said he saw a green colored vehicle pull away from the scene.

Water Tax Rate Down Two Cents

Torrance taxpayers were in for another bit of heartening news over the week end as the Metropolitan Water District announced a 2-cent reduction in tax rates for the new year.

The reduction marks the sixth consecutive year that the district has cut taxes, according to Board Chairman Joseph Jensen.

The new tax rate will be 21 cents a \$100 of assessed valuation for the fiscal year 1955-56. The reduction was made despite the fact that the water district has recently greatly expanded its aqueduct extension program to meet the increasing need for Colorado River water in the homes and industries of Southern California.

Three Mumps Cases Reported in City

Three cases of mumps led disease cases in Torrance for the week ending Aug. 13, statistics from the Los Angeles County Health Department indicated.

In addition to the trio of mumps cases, single cases of the following diseases were recorded in this area: epilepsy, measles, whooping cough, food poisoning, and tuberculosis.

Request Bright Colored Cards

Rushed to Los Angeles County Hospital late Tuesday after his local physician diagnosed polio, was blue-eyed, 5-year-old Lawrence Palmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Palmer, 223 Paseo de Granada.

Polio specialists at County General Hospital have confirmed the diagnosis and young Lawrence, who had just celebrated his fifth birthday with a gay party at his home the preceding week, was placed in the communicable disease ward while the dread sickness ran its course through his little body.

Latest reports added that the boy is still in the ward, while doctors await abatement of the polio fever, before they can assess the damage done and begin the long patient work of bringing Lawrence back to health.

Cards Requested

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, who can see their son for only 10 minutes a day and then only through a glass partition, said that no presents or flowers can be accepted, however, they ask their fellow Riverians and others who wish, to send Lawrence brightly colored cards. They point out that he cannot use his small muscles in any way, but would enjoy looking at brightly colored birthday, Christmas, or other remembrance cards which the nurse can hang up around his bed.

Cards may be sent to him at the Communicable Disease Ward, Los Angeles County General Hospital, Los Angeles.

Has Twin Sister

Lawrence is the twin brother of Elizabeth Palmer, and has twin brothers, Robert and David, 9, and an older sister, Margaret Louise, 11. Robert and David presently are at summer camp, while Margaret minds her younger sister, Elizabeth, while the Palmers are at the hospital with their stricken son.

The case of polio is the climax of a series of illnesses which have racked the family over the past month, the Palmers said. First it was 9-year-old David who was injured seriously in one eye, with the result that the sight has been badly impaired. Recently Mrs. Palmer, a nurse at Harbor General Hospital, has been kept from her work by an abscessed jaw.

The father is employed with a wholesale drug company in Los Angeles.



MUSCLE AND CURVE ROYALTY . . . Stanley Smith, 11 1/2, representing the Crenshaw playground walked off with the "Mr. Muscles" title while Barbara Moore, 8 1/2, from the North Torrance playground, won the "Miss Curves" title Thursday in judging at Alondra Park. The annual contest, sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department, is part of the annual swimming program.

Number of Job Seekers Drop In Last Month

The number of unemployed was considerably lower on August 1 than a month earlier, according to latest reports from the Department of Employment, although several categories showed an increase.

On Aug. 1, 537 persons—223 men and 314 women—were registered with the local Department of Employment office. Forty-one per cent of the men were veterans.

Jobseekers in the professional, clerical, service, skilled, and semi-skilled categories were considerably fewer than a month earlier, but jobless in the sales, agriculture and fishing, and labor categories were somewhat more numerous.

The breakdown by category is as follows:

	Aug. July	June	
Professional	312	39	412
Clerical	124	156	125
Sales	61	50	40
Service	94	109	85
Agriculture and Fishing	19	11	6
Skilled	138	173	152
Semi-skilled	146	181	165
Labor	223	194	125
Total	837	913	740

Empty Gas Tank Foils Suicide Try

The fact that his car ran out of gas apparently saved the life of a 31-year-old Lomita man Tuesday night who tried to commit suicide after his wife filed divorce proceedings against him.

Sheriff's deputies found the man in a semi-conscious condition in his car at Narbonne Ave. and Palos Verdes Dr. North, a hose running from the exhaust pipe into the interior with all windows closed. He left a detailed note, providing for disposal of his property and protesting his undying love for his estranged wife and their three children.

Contacted at her present home, the wife said she wanted nothing to do with him, despite the suicide attempt. He was treated in the psychiatric ward of Los Angeles County General Hospital.

Part of the note read: "This is a good car except for a tooth broken in second gear. You have to add brake fluid once in a while and the number 1 red is a little loose. If I go to heaven, maybe you'll let me court you again and this time be a good husband. My life is without you and now it is dead and I might as well be too."

Drivers Injured in Two Car Collision

Drivers of two cars involved in a traffic mishap Thursday morning at 174th and Hawthorne, received minor injuries and were treated at Harbor General Hospital.

John A. Adams, 46, of 1822 Belmont, Redondo Beach, and Helen E. Hildreth, 40, of 610 W. 161st, Gardena, both received minor hurts in the intersection crash. They were transported to Harbor Hospital by Wrights Ambulance.

New Drive-In

Construction of an ultra-modern drive-in restaurant on Pacific Coast Hwy. at Crenshaw by Hody's was assured last week end with the announcement by President Sidney H. Edinger that the firm plans to exercise the option on the Torrance Municipal Airport property.