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12

Torrance Herald

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IN THE HERALD TODAY

Ann Landers . . . 20 Obituaries . . . 3
Church News . . . 29 Society . . . 9-16
Comics . . . 17 Sports . . . 24
Crossword . . . 20 Star Gazer . . . 20
Editorials . . . 20 Want Ads . . . 31-35

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CITY, STATE BEAUTIES . . . Sharon Starns, crowned "Miss Torrance" during the city's Rancho Days celebration, gets a congratulatory hug from Peggy Jacobsen, "Miss California," in the recent Miss Universe competition. Runners-up in the local competition were Vera Roberson, Marti Fowler, Margie Thompson, and Sharon Smith.

Torrance's 'Rancho Days' Brings Out Crowd of 125,000

More than 125,000 people came, saw, and ate at the first annual Torrance Rancho Days celebration last week-end.

No official count was kept, but city leaders were jubilant over the turnout. More than 5000 persons attended the rodeo sponsored by the Torrance Lions Club and Mounted Police on Friday and Saturday.

Air Force officials reported that persons viewing the "Lucky Lady II," globe-girdling bomber, outnumbered those at several better-known and longer established exhibitions.

Expansion Discussed
Officials already were talking of expanding the exhibit next year. Although there were 58 exhibits in the industrial tent, Chamber of Commerce Secretary Dick Fitzgerald said that a larger tent with more representatives could be obtained for next year.

"We limited the exhibitors to Torrance people, and hope that more will be represented next year," he said.
Estimates varied, but it was generally agreed that more than 20,000 watched the Rancho Days parade last Saturday morning. More than 1000 people, representing 160 organizations, took part in the festivities as they tramped from downtown Torrance to the Civic Center, center of all the activities.

Crowds Turn Out
Despite the fact that activities started a day late, due to failure of the planners to get insurance covering the city

Rivets Reports

Nobody will need their overcoats today, Rivets noted as he studied the weather forecast. Temperatures are expected to be warm, hitting the high eighties.

Highs and lows for the week included Sunday (75-61); Monday (77-61); Tuesday (85-62); and Wednesday (82-62).

Torrance, enthusiastic crowds turned out.

The Lions Club reported more than 10,000 hot dogs and 7000 soft drinks were sold at its rodeo stands, while the Kiwanis Club reported sale of 1300 pizzas during one day.

The United States Steel Corp. gave away about 300 balloons per hour at its booth in the industrial tent.

Queen Crowned
Miss Sharon Starns was crowned as Miss Torrance in ceremonies Saturday night in the industrial tent. Runners-up were Vera Roberson, Marti Fowler, Sharon Smith, and Margie Thompson.

Winner of a new Cadillac in a contest sponsored by the Youth Band was won by Hank Tyler, 14903 Purche Ave., Gardena.

Three shoppers won \$100 bills in a contest sponsored by the Downtown Retail Merchants' Assn. They were Mrs. William F. Hull, 24726 Winlock Dr.; S. R. Dragotto, 1212 Teri Ave., and John M. Voorhees, 1103 Acacia Ave.

Improvement Of Streets Slated Here

A total of \$10,905 worth of street improvements in the southern part of the Fourth Supervisorial District was announced yesterday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

One of the largest projects listed was an appropriation of \$4,900 to install pipes and pave over a culvert on Avalon Blvd. at 189th St.

Other jobs listed by the Supervisor were the widening of the north side of 222nd St. near Main St., and the widening of 262nd St. from Eshelman Ave. to Oak St. to join existing curbs and gutters.

Local Man Tabs Weight of Coil Right on Nose

As a weight guesser, Don B. Larsen, 112 W. 220th St., could make a fortune.

Larsen tabbed it right on the nose when he entered his estimate about the large coil of steel on display at the Rome Cable booth in the industrial exhibit which was part of the Torrance Rancho Days.

The coil weighed 12,400 pounds—just as Larsen had "dicted." For his accurate guess, he was awarded a barbecue from the Rome Cable Corp.

Other winners of small hand trucks were Christine Bishop, John Morgan and James D. McCune.

Lower Speed Limit Set on Hawthorne

Revision of speed zoning along 4.8 miles of State Sign Route 107 (Hawthorne Ave.) in Torrance, was announced yesterday by the State Department of Public Works.

A 50-mile-an-hour speed limit has been established from Pacific Coast Hwy. to south of 190th St. A 45-mile zone has been established from south of 190th St. to south of 174th St. From the end of the new 45-mile zone south of 174th St. to Redondo Beach Blvd., a 35-mile-an-hour speed zone has been set up.

Reduction of the speed limit from 55 miles an hour was recommended by State Highway Engineer G. T. McCoy following an engineering and traffic survey by the Division of Highways.

The new speed limits will become effective with the posting of signs, probably within a week.

City Studies Possible Annexation of Ocean

Police Aid Slain Officers

Torrance police officers have added \$1438 to the fund being collected for the widows of two El Segundo officers who were murdered while issuing a citation to a suspect.

The local contribution was the proceeds of the Police Association dance held Saturday night as part of the Torrance Rancho Days.

Presentation Made

Making the presentation to the "Curtis-Phillips Fund" in El Segundo were Chief Percy Bennett, Officers Russell Culverhouse, dance chairman; and Don Hartel president of the association.

Meanwhile, Chief Bennett answered a television interviewer's charge that out-lying city policemen were not well-trained.

Speaking for the training program in Torrance, Bennett said it was one of the finest.

Paul Coates, television performer, this week declared the El Segundo tragedy might not have happened if the two officers were trained in the proper manner.

Training Hit

Coates also cited inability of smaller cities to provide adequate training facilities.

Bennett yesterday told the HERALD that local officers are first sent to the Biscailuz training school for instruction. "Every officer in the department, including myself, views a training film each month and then takes a written test covering the film," Bennett said.

"Our men are kept up-to-date on all the latest methods in order to protect not only the citizens but themselves," he concluded.

Supervisor Speaks

A study of police training facilities in Los Angeles County was requested this week by the Board of Supervisors, on motion of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who pointed out that the recent slaying of the El Segundo officers emphasized the necessity of making good training available for all law enforcement officers.

"I believe that Los Angeles County should assume the leadership and work in cooperation with any city which might want to use County facilities and personnel for training their law enforcement officers," Supervisor Hahn said.

By a program of mutual cooperation between the County and the cities which want to provide police training through the use of the County Sheriff's Department facilities, all law enforcement will be strengthened, Supervisor Hahn said.



PRESENT CHECK . . . Torrance Police Officer Russell Culverhouse (left), Chief Percy Bennett and Officer Don Hartel are shown presenting a check for \$1438.51 to El Segundo Police Chief Thomas DeBerry. The money raised by a benefit dance will go to the Curtis-Phillips fund.

COUNCIL ORDERS METERS FOR CABRILLO PARKING

A total of 46 new parking meters have been authorized for the center of Cabrillo Ave. City councilmen Tuesday night approved the installation of the meters as well as protective asphalt curbing.

The meters are expected to be in operation within the next two months. The area now is posted for two-hour parking and Acting Chief of Police Percy Bennett was requested to enforce the parking limit more strictly until the meters are installed.

Refer Petition

In other action, councilmen referred a petition, signed by 71 persons requesting four-way stop signs at Ocean Ave. and Sepulveda Blvd., to the traffic commission.

The residents signing the petitions cited the danger of the intersection where a young bicyclist recently was killed.

A report on the drainage situation on Cabrillo Ave. in front of the Church of God and the Masonic Lodge was referred to city department heads for further study and recommendation.

Lease Motors

Councilmen also approved a plan to lease three motorcycles from a trio of local policemen. However, City Manager

George Stevens was requested to review the plan, which has been in effect for several years.

Councilman Nickolas Drale pointed out that machines purchased by the city would be available 24 hours a day rather than the eight hours daily service now provided when officers own their own motorcycles.

The city group also ordered a new ordinance which would require subdividers to install street lights and standards in all new tracts built in the city.

Pot Boils Over in Lomita's Hassle

Thwarted so far in its attempts to annex Lomita, Redondo Beach, and Palos Verdes, Torrance's City Council Tuesday night eyed the possibility of annexing part of the Pacific Ocean.

The city's fathers, acting on the suggestion of Councilman Nickolas O. Drale, were considering the move as a possible bar to tidelands oil drilling or, if this move fails, to get a share of the revenues from such drilling.

Drale had pointed out that the city of Santa Barbara had annexed the ocean out to a three-mile limit for the same purpose.

Opinion Given

City Attorney Stanley E. Remelemeyer said that he doubted that if the city annexed the land, it could prevent the oil drilling if the state, which owns the land, chose to drill there. However, if the state does lease the land, the city might be able to get real property taxes from it, he reported.

The tidelands offshore are owned by the state, although Los Angeles, Long Beach, Redondo Beach, and Hermosa Beach have acquired the drilling rights by grant of the state legislature. Torrance has no such title.

Lomitans Active

In other back-stage annexation activity, there was speculation in Lomita that certain property owners along the Torrance boundary might request exclusion from the limits of the proposed city of Lomita, which is scheduled to vote on incorporation in October.

The Board of Supervisors Tuesday received two requests from property owners that their lands be excluded from the limits of the proposed Lomita city.

Observers felt that more requests for exclusion would be filed by the Aug. 8 deadline, including several who would like to be annexed to Torrance.

Battle Continues

The battle over incorporation in Lomita continued as Linden Chandler, a strong incorporation backer, admitted that he had apparently erro-

GRASS FIRES FOUGHT BY LOCAL FIREMEN

Grass fires and dump burned merrily in Torrance early this week, with firemen called out to extinguish them.

Firemen battled a blaze at Green's Dump yesterday for 2½ hours, and Monday fought a blaze at the city dump for 1½ hours.

On Tuesday, they put out a five-acre grass fire at Patrone and Maricopa for an hour; a 100x100-ft. grass fire at 247th and Crenshaw, and a one-acre blaze between Maricopa and the Pittsburgh Paint Company.



TAMING A LION . . . Phoebe, a 3½-month-old lion cub belonging to Phil Fister, of Cal Gym, 1321½ Sartori, is a little footsole today, but much safer to have around. Here Dr. Rollin R. Smith (left) completes a declawing operation at his Harbor Animal Hospital while his son, Jim (right), assists. Fister looks on in the center. Fister has permanent quarters for the cub in Long Beach, but plans to keep the animal at the gym for a couple of weeks while those clawless toes heal up.