

Council Moves to Reduce Dangers of Plastic Bags

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Torrance Herald

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ROAD SCANDAL HINTED IN PROBE

Analysis of Jobs Sought

An analysis of several paving contracts performed for the city during the past three years was ordered by Mayor Albert Isen Tuesday night amid thinly veiled hints that the city may have been short-changed on some of them through short weights, and inferior construction.

Citing Arlington Ave. as an example, Isen said he traveled the paved but never opened portion of the street from 190th St. to Del Amo Blvd. and that "the paving and materials seem to be inferior."

He said the road was deteriorated and would cost several thousand dollars to put into condition for use. Other streets throughout the city which had been improved recently were cited, including Lomita Blvd. and Carson St.

"THIS RAISES many questions," the mayor said. He said it raised questions which he suggested Wade Pebbles, the city's new director of public works, determine the answers for as a No. 1 priority. Isen said the council needed to know who made the inspections, whether charged-for materials were delivered to the jobs, why Arlington Ave. is in its present condition, and who is responsible for the situation.

"I think we should analyze other road projects in the city completed during the past three years to see if the city got value received for its money," Isen said.

PEEBLES was instructed to take core samples of the various paving jobs and check them against the specifications for the job. At the suggestion of Councilman Bob Jahn, he was also instructed to check back on the inspection records and determine who was the inspector on each of the jobs.

Councilman Jay Beasley told his colleagues that he had "heard reports" recently of weight shortages and other paving irregularities and had passed the information along to Asst. City Manager Chapman Bone.

THE ORDER for a probe into the paving contracts followed on the heels of an announcement that Acting City Engineer Ronald Bishop was on terminal leave and would end his job with the city as of June 1.

Bishop, city engineer here since 1953, recently asked to be relieved of the assignment as city engineer and took a lesser position as senior engineer. In this capacity, he was (Continued on Page 6)

Crashes Injure Six Here

Four children and two adults were injured Tuesday in two separate traffic accidents here.

Mrs. Barbara Crew, 37, and Carol Crew, 2, of 2036 Kathy Way and Mrs. Helen Rink, 54, of 1963 Middlebrook Rd. received injuries when a car driven by Mrs. Crew hit a power pole in the 1900 block of Middlebrook Rd. while she leaned over to pick up a milk bottle. Two weeks ago Mrs. Crew has a narrow escape when her home was hit by a falling airplane.

Injured when the parked car in which they were sitting was struck by an automobile driven by a Los Angeles man in the 1600 block of Cabrillo Ave. were Rebecca, 5, Michael, 3, and Sharon Butcher, 2, all of 22718 Fries Ave., Carson. The children all suffered bruises.

Label Law On Plastic Bags Asked

An ordinance prohibiting use of plastic garment bags by dry-cleaning establishments unless they are labeled "highly dangerous to children" will be drawn up by Torrance City Council as a result of a motion passed at Tuesday's Council meeting.

The ordinance was proposed by Councilman Jay Beasley, who accused the dry-cleaning industry of not doing anything about the situation.

Deaths in this country by the transparent bags this year have taken the lives of 20 children.

North High Prom

"Pearls of the Deep" will be the theme of the annual Junior Senior Prom to be held in the North High School gymnasium, Saturday, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

BAN ON 'PROM' FLAYED

Reports that sixteen boy and girl members of the Torrance high school junior class will be restricted from attending the Junior-Senior Prom May 23 were received by the Torrance HERALD Tuesday.

Ten boys and girls, members of the junior class and some wearing placards stating "Torrance high is a Mickey Mouse school" told a HERALD reporter that they had been notified of the ban five days before the annual dance.

A spokesman for the group said that their only offense was that they followed tradition and were in the Senior Patio during Senior Day while members of the graduating class were away. He also said that it's a traditional custom for juniors to use the patio on the day the seniors are absent from school.

ONE OF THE group quoted from the school's freshman handbook to the effect that all students are entitled to a Student Court hearing and especially if the offense was deemed serious enough to prevent them from attending their total social function of the year.

According to the students many of whom had purchased formal attire that under this ruling would be of no use to them, they had no trial but were notified by the school's vice principal.

When contacted by the HERALD Vice Principal Leonard Lifton said there was no existing tradition that juniors of Torrance high school took over the senior patio on Senior Day and that the area was restricted to them at all times. He added that these juniors had planned this invasion for some time and that when the seniors "got wind of it and started back to the patio a very serious situation might have developed if the juniors had not been called in to my office."

LIFTON also said that one junior had been thrown into (Continued on Page 6)



A REMINDER . . . Mrs. James Burchett of the American Legion Auxiliary reminds all that tomorrow, May 22, is Poppy Day in Torrance. "By wearing a poppy made by those who gave their health, you can help the work for the disabled," she said. The poppies are made by bed patients at the Long Beach Veterans' Hospital and will be on sale tomorrow in various locations throughout the city. (Herald photo)

On Hands

Rattlesnake Bites Young Rivieran

An 8-year-old Hollywood Riviera boy was the victim of two rattlesnake bites he received Sunday while on a snake hunt with his father in the Palos Verdes Hills.

Reported better at Long Beach Seaside Hospital, Ricky Park and his father, Frank Park, a technical writer, planned to join an organized snake hunt of the Long Beach Reptile Club that day.

Approximately 85 persons combed the hills Sunday hunting for rattlers, but Park couldn't locate the group so de-

ided to stage a snake hunt of his own.

The boy picked up an 18-inch rattlesnake and before his father could reach him was bitten on each hand.

Park, who lives at 320 Calle de Andalucia, told police that Ricky called to him, "Look what I've got!" as he held the snake aloft.

A snake fancier, Ricky has a 6-foot bull snake, Dangerous Dan, at his home.

The father rushed the boy to Hillside Hospital, Lomita, where he was given special snake bite serum, then to Long Beach for more shots.

Albert T. (Tex) Schuepbach, snake hunting expert for the Reptile Club, said the group would seek any additional serum Ricky might need.

He warned that snake hunts should be conducted only in authorized groups.

Hospital authorities said Ricky is improved but still in serious condition. So far, he has been given nine shots of snake serum.



EXPLORE TRAIL . . . Leading their horses down a mountain side in the High Sierras are a group of YMCA boys enjoying summer camp. The Torrance Y will sponsor three camps in the High Sierras this summer as part of their summer camp program, which includes a total of 11 camps for boys and girls over the age of 6.

YMCA Leaders Say Camp Signups Heavy

Nearly 500 boys and girls have registered to date for 11 summer camps sponsored by the Torrance YMCA, it was announced today by Clifford Graybehl, YMCA camp committee chairman.

Day camping for boys and girls in the six to nine age bracket will be offered by the Summer Adventure Club for four weeks during the month of August. In addition to visiting spots of interest in Southern California, the adventure club will offer games, swimming, crafts, archery, sports, and two overnight camp-outs.

Camp Round Meadow will be open the week of August 8 to 15 for boys between the ages of nine to twelve. Activities will include burro hikes, pool swimming, and Indian lore. Girls in the same age group will camp near Crestline at Camp Mozumdar from July 25 to Aug. 1.

THREE base camps and caravans in the High Sierras have

Teen Pair Convicted Of Murder

Two 18-year old youths on trial for the holdup slaying of a Los Angeles barber here Dec. 21 were convicted on charges of first degree murder Tuesday.

Superior Court Judge Benjamin Landis returned the guilty verdict against Edward T. Benevisez and Gabriel J. Barreras, both of East Los Angeles after the case against the pair had been submitted on transcripts of the preliminary hearing.

The pair will be returned June 19 for sentencing after preparation of a probation report ordered by the judge.

Benevisez and Barreras were convicted of killing Aaron Johnson, 40, at 182nd St. near St. Andrew's Place with a blast from a shotgun in a robbery attempt.

The auto in which the pair attempted to flee the scene became stalled, and officers traced the registration to the suspects.



FINALIZE PLANS . . . Talking over last minute details for the first reunion of the Class of '54, Torrance High School, are, left to right, Mrs. Frank Paour III (Joan Leech), Mrs. Clayton Mallard (Sally Sprout), Mrs. Rudy Moreno (Diane Schumert), Mrs. James Farrar (Norma Mead), and Sandy Grub. The dinner-dance will be held at the Lafayette Hotel in Long Beach Saturday night. Dancing will begin at 9 p.m.

Tomorrow Night

Youth Band to Feature Folk Music of Mexico in Concert

A Mexican Folk Song Symphony, entitled "La Fiesta Mexicana," will be the featured work on the Torrance Area Youth Band's "Thirteenth Anniversary" Concert to be Auditorium tomorrow evening at 8. The composition, 22 minutes in length (considered long for a band number) was written by Dr. H. Owen Reed, chairman of theory and composition at Michigan State University. Dr. Reed was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for study in Mexico to gather material for this composition.

"La Fiesta Mexicana" is written in three movements. The first is the Prelude and Atecha Dance, followed by the "Mass" (middle movement)

and the third movement entitled "Carnival." The music features harp and percussion throughout. Special percussion instruments and players had to be recruited to perform the music. Special percussion instruments used in the music includes harp, two sets of tubular bells (chimes), four tympani, marimba, temple blocks, two tunable tom-toms, snare drum, bass drum, castanets, maracas, cymbals, gong, and tambourine.

OTHER numbers listed on the program include Proud Heritage March, Die Fledermaus overture, selections from "My Fair Lady," Symphonic Songs by Robert Russell Ben-

nett, and Mozart's "Abduction" from the Il Seraglio overture. The Mozart number was transcribed from the orchestra score by James Van Dyck, conductor of the Youth Band.

Student soloists on the program include Ronnie Van Dyck, clarinetist; Peter Bailey, violinist; and Patricia Patterson, pianist. Charles Brady, trumpeter, will be guest artist and Jim Davidson will be guest conductor.

THIS IS the fourth and last concert of the current series of Artist Concerts co-sponsored by the Youth Band and the Torrance Junior Woman's Club.

A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you believe a teacher should be allowed to use physical force as a means of disciplining pupils in a class?" That was the question the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked several persons in Torrance last week. Their answers and pictures appear below.

Dotte Ludwig, Compton, escrow officer:

"Yes, with reservations. A teacher should use discretion and only resort to physical discipline in extreme cases. In a certain small minority of students, force is unfortunately necessary."

Ray Anderson, 2013 Border Ave., proprietor of sharpening shop:

"Yes, I think they should; but only when there is more than one adult present."

Mrs. Betsy Hanson, 2619 W. 175th St., secretary:

"No, I don't think so. I can see where discipline problems may arise and a teacher may be tempted to use physical force, but I feel the principal or parent should be called in instead."

Mrs. Eddie Chavez, 25103 Frampton Harbor City, housewife:

"No, I don't believe they should. I really think there are other ways of discipline. Trying to understand a child will bring better results than force in the long run."

Alice Baker, 4508 Toucan St., stenographer:

"Most problems can be corrected without physical means of discipline. It takes longer, but the result is more gratifying to both pupils and teacher."

Polio Clinic Here Tomorrow Evening

Third in a series of polio immunization clinics sponsored by the Southwest District of the L.A. County Medical Assn. will be held tomorrow from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Torrance Memorial Hospital and Riviera Hospital.

The clinics are intended for persons unable to afford private medical care. Parents are asked to accompany children.

Stereo Dance Set

North Torrance Democratic Club will hold a stereophonic dance at Higgins Brick Patio, 2217 W. 174th St., at 8 p.m. Saturday. The event will be open to the public. Hostesses will be Lucille Maspero, Norma Westwood, Ruth Reeves and Joyce Belcher.