

Torrance Herald

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OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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12 PAGES

Planning Board Protests School Site Near New Shopping Center

Claim Land in Business Area

The Torrance Planning Commission frowned on the Torrance Unified School District's plans to build an elementary school at 174th and Hawthorne Ave., with some commissioners voicing vehement objects to the proposed site.

The matter was sent to the Planning Commission for its comments, as a routine matter, although the schools are not bound by the Planning Commission's action. The site, covering 7 1/2 acres on the southeast corner of 174th and Hawthorne, is designed to take some of the students now attending Perry School.

"This is valuable commercial property across from the South Bay Shopping Center and adjoining the highway," Planner John Mulvihill declared. "It's not suitable for a school. It's too expensive."

"The schools are short of money now," said Commissioner Dave Figureo. "They should pick some other land." Commissioner Laurence Wing hit the proposed site, urging discussion of such school site purchases in PTA meetings. "The people are not aware of many actions of this kind," he said.

The commission suggested that the schools enlarge Perry School or seek some other site. Their views will be sent to the City Council for comment.



MORE THAN THIS, DADDY? . . . Leslie Wayne Howard, 4, son of Earle Sumpter tries to figure out how many pints of blood his father had donated in the past 18 years, as Mrs. Robert L. Orsini, vice chairman of the local blood bank looks on. Sumpter, who has given 72 pints of blood since 1939, is planning to give again Thursday, when the Bloodmobile visits from 3 to 7:30 p.m. President Sumpter will lead the Torrance Letter Carriers in a mass donation. (Herald Photo)

Six File Council Petitions

Eight persons have filed nominating petitions as candidates for city offices in the April 8 elections, it was reported here Friday evening by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

All nominations for the April 8 ballot must be filed with Bartlett at the city hall by noon Thursday, Feb. 13.

The council slate grew to six this week with three more filings, one has filed for city treasurer, and one for mayor.

Officially nominated for the council race are Richard B. Wilson, Thirvin Fleetwood, J. E. Thompson, Virgil Hancock, George Bradford, and Roger "Pat" Hogue.

Nominated for the city treasurer's office is Frank W. Hunter.

Nick Dralle has been the only candidate to file for the mayor's post. Albert Isen will file this week.

Nominations to date still leave 20 petitions out which have not been returned to the city clerk. Latest to take out petitions were Bartlett, who will seek his 10th term in the clerk's office, and John Kesson of 2018 W. 182nd St., who said he will be a candidate for the council.



WHATNIK . . . Fred Averill, 1620 W. 248th St., was puzzled when he discovered this mirror-like glass ball in his front yard Friday. Los Angeles police didn't know what it was, nor did Ft. MacArthur representatives. What he'd like to know is whether it came from outer space or from mischievous juveniles. (Herald Photo)

Herald in New State Honors

The Torrance HERALD was given the second-place trophy for general excellence yesterday in the results of a statewide judging of California newspapers it was announced at the annual convention of California Newspaper Publishers Assn. at Coronado.

Governor Goodwin J. Knight presented the award to HERALD Publisher King Williams.

Winning first place in the general excellence classification, the top award in the state, was the Costa Mesa Globe-Herald. The HERALD won the top honor two years ago.

Winning the daily competition was the Riverside Daily Enterprise. The San Jose News was second.

The South Bay Daily Breeze, published in Redondo Beach, won second place in the judging for best special editions.

Election of officers for the statewide publishers group will be held today. HERALD Publisher Williams has been nominated for re-election as a director.

Passenger Injured

Two cars collided Friday at Hawthorne Ave. and 182nd St., with one passenger receiving minor injuries.

Drivers were Wallace John Podwinski, 31, of Long Beach and Gregorio Saenz Cordero, 52, of San Jose. Carlos Herrera, 57, of Redondo Beach, a passenger in Cordero's car sought private medical attention.

POPULAR ELECTION OF CITY ATTORNEY SOUGHT

A request that the City Attorney be elected by popular vote will be presented to the

Safe Stolen From Charter Airline Firm

Police were searching yesterday for the burglar who took a 300 pound safe containing \$1000 in payroll checks from a charter airline office at 2751 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Breaking into the office, the burglar first opened two vending machines and took the small change from the coin boxes.

The dial of the safe was found lying on the floor and police theorized an attempt to open the safe in the office had been made. When the attempt failed, the burglar evidently decided to take the safe and all. Also missing was a camera which was in one of the pilot's bags.

Valuable corporation records were in the safe along with the money, the victims declared.

Drainage of Intersection Under Study

Residents in the vicinity of 171st St., Osage and Prairie Aves., have petitioned the city council to take action on a drainage problem.

The petition, signed by 36 persons, gave a three-year history of complaints made to city street department officials.

"There was always assurance that the situation would be corrected immediately, but to this date nothing in this connection has been done," the petition reads.

The "situation" referred to by the residents is improper drainage at intersections which allows water to stand and become stagnant.

Holes in the street have been repaired with asphalt but residents claim the asphalt is kicked up by cars and washes down and clogs the gutters.

Councilmen are expected to hear John Russell, director of public works, report Tuesday on the problem.

TWO TOTS INJURED IN COLLISIONS

Two youngsters are recovering today from injuries received in accidents late Wednesday in Torrance.

Most seriously hurt was three-year-old Kelly Owens, 2729 Grand Summit Dr. He was taken to Harbor General Hospital for treatment of a head injury.

Police reported the youngster ran out into the street and was hit by a car driven by Bertha Flossie Patty, 64, of 2763 Portobello St. The driver was not held.

Tommy Monahan, 1, of 5019 Lee St., was treated by the family doctor for minor injuries following an accident at Del Amo Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave.

Drivers were Joseph Charles Byrne, 35, of Redondo Beach, and Patsy McKelvey Monahan, 25, of the Lee St. address.

Liquor Store Robbed Here At Gun Point

Flourishing a .38 calibre automatic, a gunman threatened to blow a liquor store owner's head of Thursday evening and then escaped with \$170 in a paper sack.

Corrado Pirrotta, owner of the store at 1954 Carson St., told police the gunman entered the store and threw a paper sack at him.

"See if you can fill this," the robber declared. Then he demanded the money saying, "I'm not fooling, I'll blow your head off."

The victim described the man as approximately 30 years of age, 180-200 pounds, six feet tall, with red hair and pock marked face. He was wearing a red plaid shirt, and had bushy eyebrows and a ruddy complexion.

Commission Eyes Stadium, Parking Lot, Master Plan

A proposal for a rodeo stadium, a parking area on Palos Verdes Blvd., and a master planning study on the south side of Sepulveda Blvd., between Crenshaw and Arlington, studied by the Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday.

Mrs. Bernice D. Blonk, 23306 Earl St., proposed a rodeo stadium for horse shows and small rodeos on her property adjoining the present South Bay Humane Society. She indicated that the Humane Society's contract expires on June 30, and she would like to use the buildings for stadium facilities.

Stadium Needed There is a need for a horse stadium in the area, Mrs. Blonk declared. The commission sent the matter to committee for study.

The commission unanimously voted in favor of investigation of paving an island on the west side of Palos Verdes Blvd., north of Via Riviera. Three churches in the area might be willing to pay for paving the island if the city would grade the property, the commission was told.

A committee was appointed to study a master zoning plan for the south side of Sepulveda Blvd. between Crenshaw and Arlington.

Changes Recommended In other action, the Planning Commission recommended single family residential zoning for the following property:

1. Area southwest of 186th and Gramercy Pl. to San Diego Freeway right-of-way to point 103' feet east of St. Andrew's Pl.
2. Area on east side of Prairie Ave. between 183rd and 186th St.
3. Certain lots on west side of Arlington Ave. between al-

ley south of Redondo Beach Blvd. and 164th St.

4. Area south of 237th St. between Cypress and Pennsylvania.

5. Area west of Arlington between Dominguez Channel and 170th St.

6. Area in Tract 19835 on west side of Arlington Ave. and 171st St.

Hearing Set

A second hearing will be held Feb. 19 on plans to discuss a comprehensive zoning plan on the northeast corner of 182nd and Prairie, 620 feet in depth. No communications were received by the commission for its first hearing Wednesday.

Sent to committee were the following:
1. Request of Gilbert D. Sellan, Redondo Beach, for an apartment zoning on 13 lots and commercial zoning on two (Continued on Page 3)

A Penny for your Thoughts

With the birthdays of two great American presidents coming up, the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked: "Who do you think was the greatest president this country has had? Why?"

Jim Judlin, 18093 Prairie Ave., El Camino student: "I think Lincoln was the greatest president we've had. That's because he made the Emancipation Proclamation. He in essence defended the Constitution and its equality clause."

Mrs. George Clarke, 2075 Torrance Blvd., court manager: "I think either Franklin Roosevelt or Woodrow Wilson would be the best, because they both took over tough jobs and killed themselves trying to help their country."

Arthur T. Donahue, 1633 1/2 Cota Ave., retired: "The first one—George Washington—was the best. He had a great deal to do with the foundation and execution of the government when setting it up was really a problem."

Janet Latta, 1321 W. Carson St., housewife: "The one we've got right now—Eisenhower—is one of the greatest. He is carrying the country through a time of great transition."

Beverly B. Smith, 1552 W. 216th St., superintendent, National Supply: "Franklin D. Roosevelt. He did more for the laboring class than any other president we've had. He will probably go down in history as the greatest president."

Dorothy Jones, 16707 Falda Ave., El Camino student: "I think Washington was, because he helped to mold the strong foundations of our country. Without that foundation, the country would not be as great as it is today."

Ladies Attend Forum Mrs. Frank Hinkel, 18503 Crenshaw Blvd., and Mrs. Lucille Mastero, 11033 Grevillea, represented the North Torrance Democratic Club at a Friday noon forum at the Hotel Biltmore.

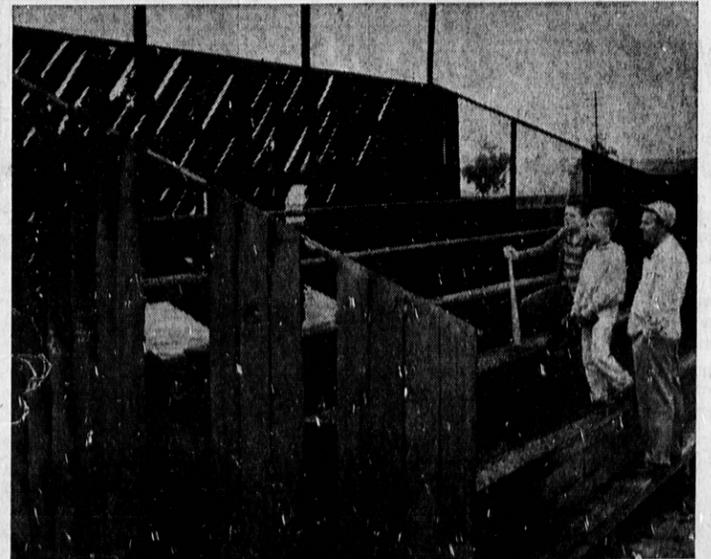
'Y' Reaches Nearly Third Of Its Goal

The Torrance YMCA has almost reached the one-third mark in its drive for \$30,000 in operating expenses for the next year, campaigners were told at a report breakfast Friday morning.

To date, a total of \$9364 has been raised, which is 31 per cent of the goal. The campaign still has two weeks to run.

For the third straight week, the clubs and churches division walked off with top honors, with 84 per cent of its goal collected. Division leaders are Mervin Schwab and Bill Speck.

Other divisions and the total percentages of the goals are clubs and churches, \$1250, 84 per cent; Century Club, 54 per cent; professional, \$1575, 44 per cent; parents, \$2528, 44 per cent; commercial, \$971, 32 per cent, and industrial, \$2350, 19 per cent.



BLEACHERS BURN . . . Fire swept through the right field bleachers of Kissel Field Friday night, gutting them and causing an estimated \$1500 damage. Greg Hart, David Bowman, and Jack Rice, secretary of the Pacific Coast Little League, which uses the park, survey the damage. Fortunately, the loss was insured and can be repaired by the time the season opens in April. Cause of the blaze was undetermined, but may have been set by vandals. (Herald Photo)