

# Vacationing Torrance Family Meets With Tragedy

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## Torrance Herald

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# HAHN ANSWERS ALONDRA CRITICS

**A Penny for your Thoughts**



How often you've heard someone express a wish to see a certain part of the United States so the PENNIES reporter asked a few people at random.

"If you could go anywhere in the United States for a vacation, where would you go and why?"

Replying were:

**Mrs. Pauline Schneider, 2707 Ralston Lane, Redondo Beach, housewife:**

"I think I would like to go to Florida as I have never been there and I like to go places I've never been before. When I get anywhere, I try to see all that I can, but I especially would like to see the Florida coastlines. I'd probably go to see that castle that was built by some rich man, which has become quite a tourist attraction, also the Cypress gardens."

**Sharon Gilmore, 1727 W. 234th St., student at Torrance High:**

"I'd like to go to Alaska for two reasons. First, I'd like to see what it's like, and second, my boyfriend who is in the Coast Guard is being transferred up there. I'd like to see all of Alaska as they say it is really beautiful. I've never been on a plane so I think I would like to fly up there."

**Mrs. Pearl Womack, 227 W. Fairview St., Inglewood, housewife:**

"I would like to make a tour of the continental United States before I went to Alaska or Hawaii. I have never been east and southeast, so I would like to go there especially. The north always makes me think of cold and unpleasantness so I am not too interested in those areas, besides the south has more places of historical interest. I already have seen most of the west."

**Mrs. Mary L. Kahrman, 5597 Hamil, housewife:**

"I would like to go to Alaska or Hawaii because I have never been to either one, and from all that I have heard about them both, they sound wonderful! My husband, who's in the Navy has been to both places, and he likes them both, though they are very different."

**Ralph Keir, 733 Sartori, 5th grade student at Torrance Elementary:**

"Oh to Hawaii, of course, because I would like to see the beach there. I've heard so much about them. I'd also like to see the jungle and a pine pine plantation just to see what they are like."

## Four Drown, Two Rescued From Water

Tragedy struck a Torrance family visiting on the east coast this week as a 14-foot boat capsized after hitting a reef. Four members of the Hugh Grant family, 5209 Arvada St., were drowned in the cold waters of Long Island Sound and two girls were pulled from the water more than four hours after the mishap.

Rescued by TV producer Robert Bendick were Jean Grant, 16, and her 13-year-old sister, Janice. Bendick was returning from a trip to Cape Cod, Mass., when he spotted the two girls hanging onto a piece of the wreckage. He pulled the girls from the water and took them to a Stamford, Conn. hospital where they were treated for shock.

SEARCHERS have recovered the bodies of the girls' stepfather, Hugh Grant, and Jean's twin sister, Judy. But the search for the body of Mrs. Grant and Thomas Grant, brother of the girls' stepfather, continued today.

JEAN TOLD Bendick that the group of six had left Rowayton, where they were vacationing, Wednesday afternoon for a cruise to Stamford, a distance of some ten miles. The family had eaten dinner at the Stamford Yacht Club and started the return trip to Rowayton after refueling about 5 p.m. Shortly after leaving the Stamford breakwater, the boat hit a rock and the propeller shaft was broken.

Rough water filled the back of the boat and a large swell caused it to capsize, throwing all six into the water. Mrs. Grant and the three girls hung onto the side of the wreck while Grant and his brother began to swim toward shore for help. Mrs. Grant and Judy slipped away and Jean said she didn't see them again.

JEAN SAID she had been (Continued on Page 3)



BEAUTY HOPEFULS... John Earon, who will emcee the annual Walteria Roundup Days festivities again this year, checks as Sharon Brennan, 16 (left), and Terry Taylor, 17, pose after becoming the first entrants in the annual contest to select "Miss Walteria." Final judging for the beauty and talent will take place Friday night, Sept. 9, at the Polynesian. (Herald Photo)



ARRIVE FROM GUAM... Mayor Albert Isen greets the William Burris family as they arrived from Guam to take up residence in Torrance. The family was attracted to Torrance through a magazine article. Burris, an ex-GI and veteran of World War II, met his wife and married her after the war was over. Mrs. Burris is a school teacher. The family has purchased a home at 16821 Kristen Ave.

## On Narrow Streets

### Whitmer Asks Authority To Restrict City Parking

A recommendation that parking be restricted on a number of the city's standard streets will be considered by the council at its regular meeting Tuesday evening at 5:30.

J. O. Whitmer, traffic and lighting engineer for the city has asked the council for authority to restrict parking to one side of those streets with a roadway of less than 30 feet in width and to restrict all parking on streets with less than 20 feet of roadway.

JOINING in Whitmer's request is Fire Chief J. J. Benner, who first made the request several years ago. At the time Benner first made the request, a number of streets in the Hollywood Riviera section of the city were posted to limit parking to one side.

Many other streets in the city which should be restricted also were omitted at that time, Benner reports.

"With the increased traffic in all portions of Torrance, it has become increasingly more difficult for the fire apparatus to navigate these standard streets," Benner said in a letter prepared last week for the council.

A LIST of streets which could be effected by such a rule include Maricopa Place, Maricopa St., Sierra St., El Dorado, Sonoma, Acacia, Beech, and Amapola. Widths of these streets vary from 22 feet to 26 feet, Whitmer reported.

The traffic engineer also will ask the council to restrict parking on Lomita Blvd between Crenshaw Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave. To maintain four full lanes of traffic on the street, it will be necessary to restrict such parking, Whitmer said.

OTHER MATTERS scheduled to come before the city council Tuesday include a request from a Boy Scout troop for permission to sell Halloween candy throughout the city this fall; a reconsideration of the request of La Fleur Enterprises for permission to construct and operate an air separation plant at 16559 S. Gramercy Place; and a recommendation from the city manager on realignment of the city's chart of organization relative to the water department.

## Signal Bids Received

West States Electrical Construction Co. of Los Angeles submitted a low bid of \$13,920 for the installation of a signal light at the intersection of Pacific Coast Hwy., with Tulita Ave. and Vista Del Parque.

The bid will have to be approved by the Torrance and Redondo Beach City councils as well as the state before the work can be done. The cost will be shared by the two cities and the state.

## Plans Being Completed For Walteria Roundup Days

Plans are being completed for the annual Walteria Roundup Days according to Robert Wagner, general chairman of the event which will be sponsored by the Walteria Businessmen's Assn. The Roundup begins Sept. 9 and will run through Sept. 11.

A beauty contest is slated for the Polynesian Restaurant Sept. 9 and the annual carnival will be held in Walteria Park on the eleventh.

TEN BEAUTY contestants will be competing for the title of Miss Walteria, but this year the contestants will have to display some talent along with their curves. John Barton will again serve as master of ceremonies for the three-day event. The sheriff for the Roundup Days is Roy Bayer, an architect, who has named Bob Pinkney as his chief deputy.

## Denies Claim He Blocked Board Probe

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, target of city council displeasure here this week, refused to take sides in the Torrance-Lawndale dispute over annexation of Alondra Park, and refused to accept the charge that he had been sitting on his hands rather than bring the county into the picture.

"I am surprised at the attitude of the city officials of both Lawndale and Torrance," Hahn said in a statement to the HERALD yesterday.

"The park belongs to the people of Los Angeles County and it exists to serve all of the people," he said.

He was emphatic in answering charges voiced before the council here Tuesday that he failed to bring the board of supervisors into the matter after Lawndale had annexed the park by an urgency ordinance on one afternoon and filed the petition in Sacramento the next morning.

"I have personally directed the County Counsel Harold W. Kennedy, one of the nation's foremost legal authorities, to review fully this entire problem of the legal status of the annexation of the park, especially the unusual proceedings by which the action was taken," he told the HERALD.

A SPOKESMAN for Hahn's office later said the request for the Kennedy study was made prior to last Tuesday's meeting of the board.

"I want to emphasize that Alondra Park is a regional County park and that Los Angeles County will continue to operate and maintain it for the benefit and good of all of the people," he said.

HE ADDED that it was his plan to continue with development of the park until it is one of the finest in Southern California.

"I very much doubt if the thousands of children and their parents who use Alondra Park really care whether it is a city or in County unincorporated territory," Hahn said.

"In fact, I believe that many of them resent the fact that such an issue and so much confusion has been made of this matter," he added.

"THE MOTIVES of both the cities of Torrance and Lawndale in trying to grab Alondra Park are certainly not clear to me," he said. (Continued on Page 3)

## BAN ON STAMPS LIFTED

Crisp new signs appeared this week in Torrance service stations, apparently spelling the end of a six-week-old dog fight to rid the local stations of the trading stamp craze. Dealers throughout the city replaced their signs and settled down to doing their business.

The move, which began the first week of July, was led by Richfield dealer George Mikel. Mikel told the HERALD this week that he would not put the trading stamps back in his business. Other dealers have expressed the same attitude, but most corners now have at least one station displaying the signs.

THE FAILURE of the move was blamed on distrust among the dealers. Many dealers told the HERALD during the early weeks of the campaign that if the move did not succeed one hundred per cent, they would replace their signs.

Many of the dealers have expressed doubt that the new business which may be brought by the replacing of the trading stamps would cover their operating costs, but they also said that they would have to give the stamps in order to compete.

QUZZED about a possible decline of business during the six week campaign, some dealers reported a decline in gallonage, but others said that this drop was not sufficient to cut profits. One dealer reported an increase in profits.

Cost of the trading stamps to dealers has been placed at about 2 per cent of the gross business. Some stations say this amounts to more than \$600 per month.



ATTEND CONCLAVE... Richard L. Clasier, Republican candidate for the 68th Assembly seat in the State Legislature; Mrs. Jean Haley, San Pedro, chairman of the 65th District Central Committee; Mrs. Anita Sharpe, secretary-treasurer of the Torrance Republican Club; and John Kesson, appointee vice president of the local club, joined many Republican leaders in Sacramento for the state convention. The local officials helped draw up the GOP platform while at the conclave last weekend.