

# Man Dies 9 Hours After Crash; Inquiry Planned

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## Torrance Herald

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# SCHOOL TAX REQUEST AT STAKE

**A Penny for your Thoughts**

Which do you think is more thrilling to watch—high school, college or pro football games? Why?

This was asked of five South High School varsity football players.

Answering were:

**Roger Harrold, guard:**

"Because there is more spirit and excitement, I like the high school football games better. The colleges are OK, but the pros seem to fake it too much."

**Rocky Manning, guard:**

"I'd go to a college game first because—like the high schools—they have a lot of spirit, but make fewer mistakes. The pros don't make many mistakes, but their little mistakes which cost them ball games."

**Bob Wehrhan, halfback:**

"I like the college games because there's better runs, longer gains, more interest, excitement and more people at the games. Also, a lot of football players get their big breaks to enter pro ball from the college level. The college games are better than the pros because the pros never seem to make any mistakes."

**Harvey Siegel, fullback:**

"I'd rather watch high school football. It's more interesting to me because you can get acquainted with the players and follow them along as they become college stars. There seems to be more spirit in the high school teams, and the spectators too. And it's more of a challenge for a high school player to win because of his age."

**Clayton Moore, manager:**

"I like the pros and the college games best. Pro ball is more interesting to watch because you see perfection at work and it makes it that much more difficult to win because they have it down pat. Colleges have the spirit and they seem to make less noticeable mistakes than even the pros sometimes."

**City Chamber to Host Journalist**

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a "Drew Pearson" day here Nov. 12. It was reported to the city council this week by President S. Pyle. A luncheon with city officials and a public dinner later is being planned.

## Auto Slams Into Pole; Driver Dies

A local industrial plant executive who seemingly escaped without injuries when his auto slammed into a power pole early Friday died yesterday about nine hours after the accident, according to Torrance police.

Elbert Lee McStotts, 33, buyer for Ryan Electronics, died at Kaiser Hospital before noon yesterday. He had been treated at Harbor General Hospital where a passerby had taken him and a passenger there early Friday after his auto had hit a pole on Pacific Coast Hwy. just east of Hawthorne Ave.



**HERE TUESDAY . . .** Pat Hillings, chairman of the Republican County Central Committee, will be guest speaker here Tuesday night at 8 when he addresses local GOP volunteers at the Republican headquarters, at 1406 Cravens Ave. The meetings are open to the public, Republican Club President Tom Brewer said.

## Gibson on Bill of Rights Committee

John S. Gibson Jr., president of the Los Angeles City Council, has been named to the 22-man Bill of Rights Week commemoration committee, Joe Crail, general chairman announced yesterday.

The committee will guide the 20th annual local observance of Bill of Rights Week, Dec. 9-15, which will be observed in government offices, courts, schools, and by civic and fraternal groups throughout the area in commemoration of the 169th anniversary of the ratification of the first ten amendments of the U. S. Constitution—the Bill of Rights. "Importance of this Bill of Rights Week observance," declared Crail, "can best be summarized by pointing out that we would not be commemorating the 169th birthday of these amendments were it not for the American people's continuous dedication to them through the years."

## Pharmacists Name Walton As President

The 1961 officers of the Harbor Area Pharmaceutical Assn. which represents more than 100 pharmacists and pharmacy owners throughout the Harbor-Torrance-Gardena area were elected Wednesday at the association's regular meeting held at the Hacienda Hotel, San Pedro.

Chosen to guide the group for the next year were Art Walton, San Pedro, president; Vern Cross, San Pedro, vice president; Seymour Zimmerman, Lomita, secretary treasurer; and Paul Abrams, Charles Brinkerhoff, San Pedro; Bill Steinberg, Miss Geraldine Vidovich, both of Torrance; members or the Board of Directors.



**ORDER OF THE DAY . . .** Officers of Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce are pictured stenciling sidewalks in Downtown Torrance Saturday morning. Message reads "Help Keep Torrance Clean. Don't Be a Litterbug." From left: Dick Florence, Tom Abdella, Bob Vroman, Gordon Phillips and Chuck Willburn. (Herald photo)

## Projects Under Way

### Local Gaps in Freeway Systems Being Closed

The day when the Torrance area will be served by two major freeway systems is moving nearer at an accelerated pace, a survey by the HERALD disclosed this week.

Latest project to come into being is the closing of the Harbor Freeway gap between 190th St. and Pacific Coast Hwy., which will complete the freeway from the interchange in Los Angeles to the harbor.

**BIDS WERE** called this week on the project, and work is expected to be started in the near future.

Although 1961-62 freeway allocations will not be adopted until later this month, it has been indicated that this area can expect about \$25 million to be allocated for the San Diego Freeway between Culver City and Artesia Blvd. in north Torrance. Campaigns to get this phase of the freeway project under way have been waged for several years, and local backers of the project

are certain this year that the funds will be made available.

**CONSTRUCTION** already under way on the San Diego Freeway includes a section from the Harbor Freeway to Carson St. 2.9 miles long which is scheduled to be completed in March, 1962. Cost of this project will be \$8,120,400.

Another section of the San Diego Freeway covering 1.3 miles and extending from Alameda St. to the Long Beach Freeway is scheduled to be completed in December, 1961. Cost of this project is \$5,134,400.

**ON THE NORTH** end of the San Diego Freeway, a 6-mile section between Sunset Blvd. and Nordhoff St., which traverses the Santa Monica Mountains and costing \$17,224,700 will be completed in April, 1962.

The section from Capistrano Beach to San Clemente will

## Pros, Cons Make Final Vote Pleas

A proposal that Torrance taxpayers authorize an additional 50 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation for school taxes will be approved or rejected by voters at the polls here Tuesday as the schools conduct a special election on the tax override question.

Polls located in each of the city's elementary schools and at El Retiro Park will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, and voters generally will cast their ballots at the school where children of their area attend classes.

**FOR THE FIRST** time in a school election, serious opposition has been voiced to the district's proposal.

Bert M. Lynn, president of the planning commission and developer of business properties in the area, has spearheaded a drive to protest the request, and is actively campaigning to urge voters to turn down the proposal.

**ON THE OTHER** side, civic leaders, PTAs, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Torrance Industries Tax Committee have endorsed the request.

School administrators have cited the bulging school enrollment as the principal factor in forcing the district to seek the additional revenue. The school enrollment has risen from 2000 students in 1947 when the Torrance Unified School District was formed to the present enrollment which approaches 27,000 pupils.

**ADDED TO THIS**, school officials report, is the increasing numbers of secondary school students whose education costs more, and the generally rising costs of everything connected with operating a large school district.

Carrying his opposition to the voters, Lynn this week spoke to members of the WALTERIA Business Men's Club and to the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. In both cases, he reported that he was "enthusiastically received." He repeated his statements made to the HERALD earlier this week, he said.

"**WE WANT** A large turnout of voters," he told the HERALD yesterday. "We know that

the March of Mothers will bring out large numbers of voters, and we also know that many of them will vote "No" on the proposal," he said.

Lynn charged that many of those endorsing the proposal do not even live in Torrance, and that others listed as endorsers are under obligation "of one kind or another" to the school district.

**ANSWERING** objections raised by Lynn earlier this week, the school board in a signed statement said it had never "mentioned this election in relation to athletics, health, or music . . . the average homeowner would pay less than \$20 a year on the measure . . . the board trusts the voters to make good decisions by offering only a 50-cent increase which will last only two years . . . Torrance has approximately one-third more children than the average district."

The board also pointed out that the amount of money available per pupil is about half what it was 12 years ago.

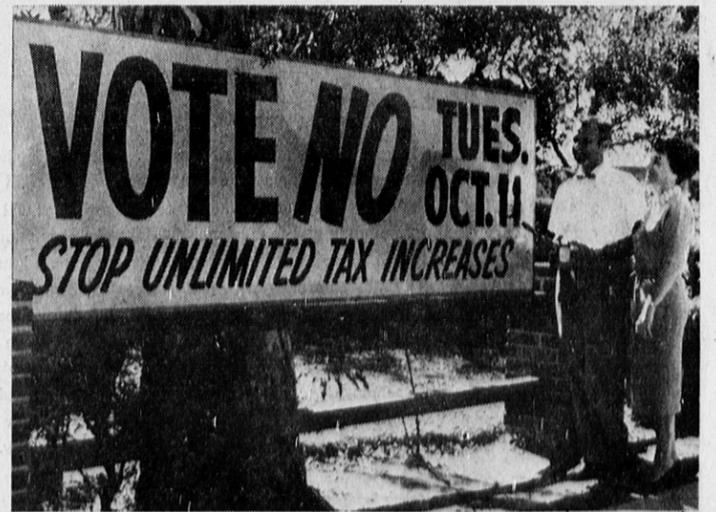
"**ALL THE MEMBERS** of the board of education are taxpayers," the statement concluded. "They have sought to keep the financial burden as low as possible on all Torrance taxpayers. The board, however, believes that children's education are worth the added nickel a day to the average homeowner."

## Students to Fill City Jobs Tuesday

Students from the city's four high schools will take over offices of city officials on Tuesday during the annual observance of Junior Citizens' Day here. The students will work with officials during the afternoon, host them at a dinner at South High School in the evening, and then attend the city council meeting beginning at 8 p.m. An agenda three pages long will face the "Junior" and "Senior" councilmen.



**DIRTY BIRD . . .** That's what these civic leaders are calling the stork, set up in the board room at the administration building for city schools. Giving the bird "the bird" for bringing so many children into the district are (from left) Mrs. William Poser, chairman of the PTA Mothers' Committee; Mayor Albert Ison; Fred W. Mill, chairman of the Torrance Industries Tax Committee; Councilman Nick Drate; and R. L. Herbert, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce education committee. All have endorsed a "Yes" vote on the tax override issue Tuesday.



**OPPOSING SCHOOL TAX . . .** Planning Commission President Bert M. Lynn, shown here with Mrs. Lynn, active in the Fern-Greenwood PTA, check huge sign spelling out their recommendations on Tuesday's election for a 50-cent school tax override. Lynn has spearheaded opposition to the election because the schools put no time limit on it, he said. (Herald photo)