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MERCHANTS GROUP BACKS MOVE TO REZONE TRACT

Change to Bring 314 New Homes

The president of the Retail Merchant's Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce this week went on record as favoring the re-zoning of a 55-acre tract of land in southwest Torrance from heavy manufacturing to residential.

Louis Arbetton, president of the merchant's group and owner of Allen's Jewelers, declared in a letter to the Torrance Press that such a move would be "an asset to the people of Torrance and to the city treasury."

314 New Homes for City

He stated that the location of the site which would bring 314 homes to this city, was ideal for subdivision purposes. The tract, which lies south of Sepulveda blvd. and east of Hawthorne blvd., is before the Torrance Planning Commission for re-zoning now.

The Planning Commission last week held the first hearing on the application for change of zone. At this meeting both proponents and opponents of the zone switch were heard. Realtor Bob Haggard and Sam Levy, businessman, headed a delegation favoring the change. Representatives of six large industries here appeared in opposition to the re-zoning. A second hearing has been set for Wednesday, May 6, at 8 p.m. in the court room at city hall.

Presidents Letter Reprinted

We reprint in full the letter signed by the Retail Merchant's president:

Torrance Press
Torrance, California
April 28, 1953
Gentlemen:

As president of the Retail Merchant's Division of the Chamber of Commerce, I wish to laud your article entitled "Industrial Iron Curtain Raised at Planning Meet," which refers to the recent application to rezone 55 acres of land from heavy industry to residential use.

I go along with your newspaper that the decision before the planning commission now is one to achieve a better balance between the two vitally needed factors to build a bigger and better city.

Residential Land Shortage

There is practically no suitable land in Torrance available for residential use. That small portion which is suitable for residential use is not for sale. The bulk of the remaining acreage is in flood or blight areas.

On the other hand, there are over 1,600 acres of land in Torrance.

(Continued on Page 6)

PLAN TO REZONE SECTION OF PROPOSED CIVIC CENTER

Several tracts of land lying on the proposed new civic center site were suggested for rezoning at Tuesday night's city council meeting. The lots to be affected are the corner lots on the north-east corner of Torrance blvd. and Maple ave. and the northeast corner of Torrance and Madrona ave., respectively.

The reclassification would change these two corners from their present commercial (C-1) classifications to a planning or parking area (P) or heavy manufacturing (M-2) classification, according to City Manager George Stevens.

There have been three hearings on this Planning Commission case, according to Stevens. Councilmen Nick Drake and Victor Benstead declared that the ordinance needed more study and that the council should await a communication from the Planning Commission. The council unanimously concurred with the move to refer the matter to the next agenda meeting.

At a special meeting of the council a week ago, a group of merchants discussed their recent proposal of using the Ideco plant on Carson st. near Plaza del Amo for use as a civic center.

The possibility of such a move has received no favor, according to Benstead and Drake.

Though the idea of expanding the Ideco site

(Continued on Page 6)

New Foreign Policy Needed, Educator Says

More than 100 Republican party leaders from Los Angeles County met in the American Legion hall, Torrance, April 22, when the 68th District Republican Assembly entertained the Los Angeles County Republican Assembly.

The meeting was highlighted by Dr. Robert Neumann, professor of political science at University of California, Los Angeles, whose talk on foreign policy urged that the United States give up its "inferiority complex towards the Russians," and that we develop a national foreign policy which reaches deeper than that of a bi-partisan policy.

Frank S. Selover, vice president of the Los Angeles County Republican Assembly, presided over the meeting, with Leonard DiMiccil, president of the 68th District Republican Assembly, acting as host chairman.

Others present and active in the meeting included Boris Woolley, first vice president of the 68th District Republican Assembly; Mrs. Jean Haley, second vice president and regional director of the California Republican Assembly and Jack Drown, chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Los Angeles County for the 17th Congressional District.

Pass Park Fee With Split Vote

In a split vote, the City Council Tuesday night passed at its second and final hearing a park fee on all new home developments here. The measure will exact \$100 per gross acre from subdividers of housing tracts in Torrance.

Councilmen Victor E. Benstead and Nick Drake voted to kill the bill, calling it "unjust and discriminatory." The three other councilmen, Willys Blount, Harvey Spelman and Mayor Mervin Schwab, cast the ballots which passed the legislation.

The Torrance Recreation Commission, sponsor of the bill, has indicated plans to utilize funds derived from the law to procure land for eight new park sites at widely scattered points throughout the city. City officials have estimated that revenue from the measure will equal \$60,000 during the ensuing fiscal year.

However, whether or not the money will actually be used in the manner indicated remains to be seen. City Manager George Stevens has pointed out that the Council alone can spend the money, and that it may be used for other purposes once it has been collected by the city.

Recreation Change Seen
Meanwhile, a drive to substantially alter the recreation setup of the city continues to gain ground. Arthur Sues, chairman of the Citizen's Committee for Better Recreation, reports that he will address the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee at their monthly meeting set for Monday, May 11.

At this time he will outline in detail a plan which would consolidate the funds and facilities of both the schools and the city to provide a year-round recreation program that would serve the needs of all the people of the community.

The present recreation program, along with its director and commission, have been under fire since last year when two members of the city council protested that the program is inadequate and wasteful.

Bert Lynn In Hospital

Bert Lynn, owner of Lynn Brickyards, was rushed to Torrance Memorial Hospital Saturday night, following what was reported to be a heart attack, suffered at his home at 1208 Greenwood ave.

Dr. Eugene L. Cook, attending physician, reported yesterday that the patient is in satisfactory condition and has been under observation at the hospital since the incident Saturday.

NAME NEW CLERKS UNION SUPERVISOR

Barclay Mitchell, former president of Retail Clerks Local 870, Oakland, this week took over supervision of Retail Clerks Local 905, AFL, which has jurisdiction in Torrance, Lomita, San Pedro, Gardena, Wilmington and adjacent areas.

Mitchell replaced Elia Mosesso, Torrance local executive, who was brought here by Retail Clerks International Association to succeed Haskell Tidwell, ousted by the International. Mosesso will be to his Tucson post, it was announced.

A. B. Crossler, international vice president of the Clerks union, stated that Mitchell will remain in charge of Local 905 until the International feels that Local 905 is capable of resuming its status as an autonomous local. The International then will order an election of officers.

Incident to the appointment of Mitchell as secretary-treasurer and supervisor of Local 905, the International mailed to all members the trial board's report which found Tidwell guilty of violating

(Continued on Page 2)

Track Coach to Speak at Y Meet

Famed, retired USC track coach Dean Cromwell will be principal speaker at the YMCA Annual Meeting set for Wednesday, May 27, according to Stan Roberts, Y executive secretary.

The meeting will begin with dinner at 6:30 at the American Legion Hall. This will be followed by Cromwell's talk, the annual reports and announcement of the election of new Board of Managers members, Robert said.

Further details on the affair, to which the public is invited will be announced later, Roberts added.



PFC DANIEL ARELLANO

Arellano Alive POW Safe In Chinese Prison Camp

Pfc. Daniel Arellano, the Torrance soldier man who had been reported missing in action since December 2, 1950, has been heard from again after nearly one year of silence.

The Torrance Press printed the exclusive story of the infantryman in several articles appearing in the last part of 1951 and the early part of 1952. It was again given two letters this week which confirm that Arellano is alive, though still a prisoner of the Chinese Communists.

Recent Postmarks
Mrs. Virginia Ortega and Mrs. Dora Camou sisters of Arellano and both of Torrance, received a letter each this week bearing the dates of January 6, 1953, and February 5, 1953, respectively.

In the letter to his sister Virginia, he writes how thrilled he was to hear from the whole family and how anxious he was to get pictures of his sisters' children. He wanted to know if the house had been fixed because he would want to bring some buddies home to celebrate.

In his letter to his sister Dora, the 20 year old infantryman de-

(Continued on Page 6)



GRAND OPENING—The new Star Furniture store, located at the corner of Torrance blvd. and Cravens ave., will hold a grand opening celebration today, Friday and Saturday. Preparing the store for the event are Frank Schmidt, left, and Ken Bellis arranging the sofa, and Frank Higgins, holding the lamp. The three men are partners in the firm. Bellis, an Army private, leaves next week to report to Fort Jackson in South Carolina.

Building Off in April: Year's Total Climbs

Construction fell off slightly here during the month of April as compared with building activity during March. By Tuesday evening \$2,488,898 worth of construction permits had been issued to builders. More than \$4,500,000 were issued last month, according to records of the city building department.

Gordon Lewis Elected Demo Club President

Gordon Lewis, long active in Democratic party work here, was elected Sunday to succeed Nick Drake as president of Torrance Democrats, Inc.

The election was staged at a breakfast meeting of the club held at the Moose Hall Sunday morning. Glenn Anderson, Democratic County Central Committeeman, was guest speaker at the affair. His address was entitled "You and the 1953 Legislature." Anderson was formerly a member of the state legislature.

Elected to serve with Lewis were Frank Gately, vice president; Mrs. Irene Frazer, secretary; Mrs. Nelson, recording secretary; and Jess Dean treasurer. Three additional club directors were also named. They are Cy Weber, Lyle O'Hara and Rose Sarukian.

Fence Nets Fancy Price

"I could have sold five times the amount of fences I advertised for sale in the Torrance Press. The response I got from the little ad was outstanding," said Mrs. Arthur Grant, of 2041 Kathy Way, Torrance.

Mrs. Grant is one of thousands of residents of the Greater Torrance Trading Area who find the Torrance Press Classified Section the best market for what they wish to sell, buy or trade.

174-FT. Chain-link fence. Used, xint cond. Double drive-in gate, single walk-in gate. Reasonable. Call LO. 1850-J; or see at 2041 Kathy Way, Kettler Knolls.

Press classified ads are inexpensive, effective and easy to place. Call Torrance 1185 before 10 a.m. Wednesday to place your ad for Thursday's issue.

Star Furniture Store to Hold Grand Opening

An O'Keefe and Merritt gas kitchen range will be given away to some lucky customer who visits the new Star Furniture Co., corner Torrance blvd. and Cravens ave., during the two day grand opening of the store Friday and Saturday.

There will be many other prizes given away during the event, according to Frank Higgins, a partner in the business. Visitors to the store will be given free tickets for the drawing which is set for Friday night at 8 p.m.

In addition there will be free orchids for the ladies and free balloons for the children, he added.

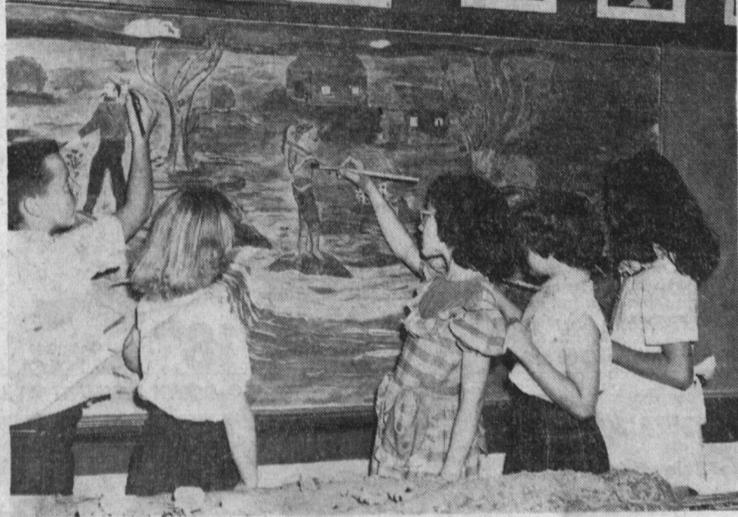
Higgins and his partners, Steve Schmidt and Ken Bellis, opened the new Star Furniture store recently. The business was formerly located at Post and Sartori aves.

The completely new and modern store sparkles with displays

(Continued on Page 6)



MEMBERS OF THE DANCE GROUP at Narbonne Senior High School are seen in the finale of "Ritual," a dance interpretation to be performed tonight in the school auditorium. The trio consists of Marcia Albers, front; Pat Smith, center; Carol Darst, rear. The chorus is, from left to right: Carmen Ochoa, Terry Williams, Nancy Wells, Darlene LuCero, Julie Delgado, Bella Embers, Myrna Bacon and Mary Embres. The dance group is under the direction of Miss Doris N. Richardson. The ballet is part of the Open House program scheduled by the school for tonight.



FIVE YOUNGSTERS are putting last-minute touches on "Goldrush," a mural which will be on exhibit tonight at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Open House program at Torrance Elementary School. The fifth grade artists seen here are, from left to right: Howard Barber, Meannette Jernigan, Marilyn Johnston, Suzanne Rice, and Magdalena Acosta. The project was part of the social studies activities under the direction of Miss C. Guetzkow.